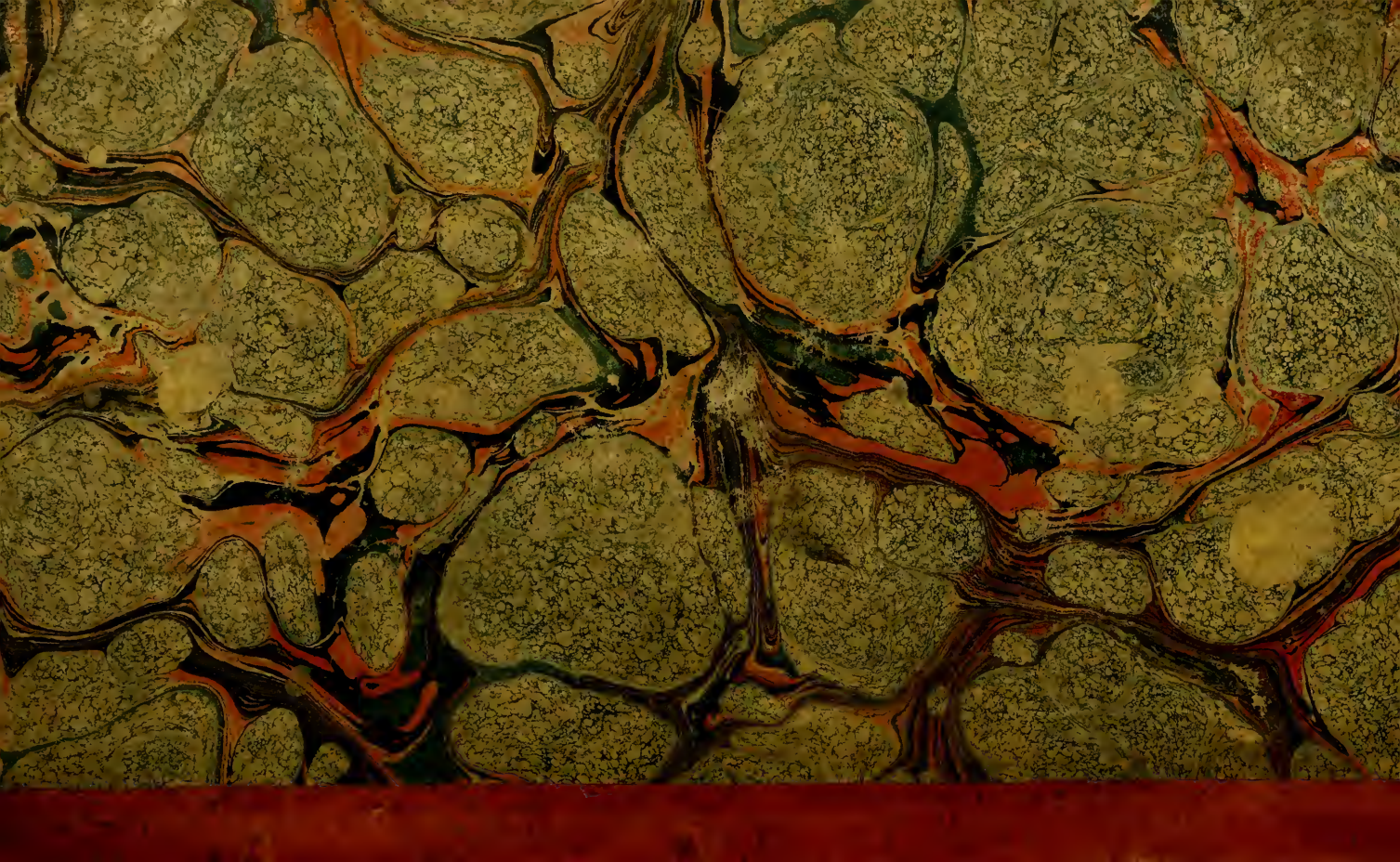

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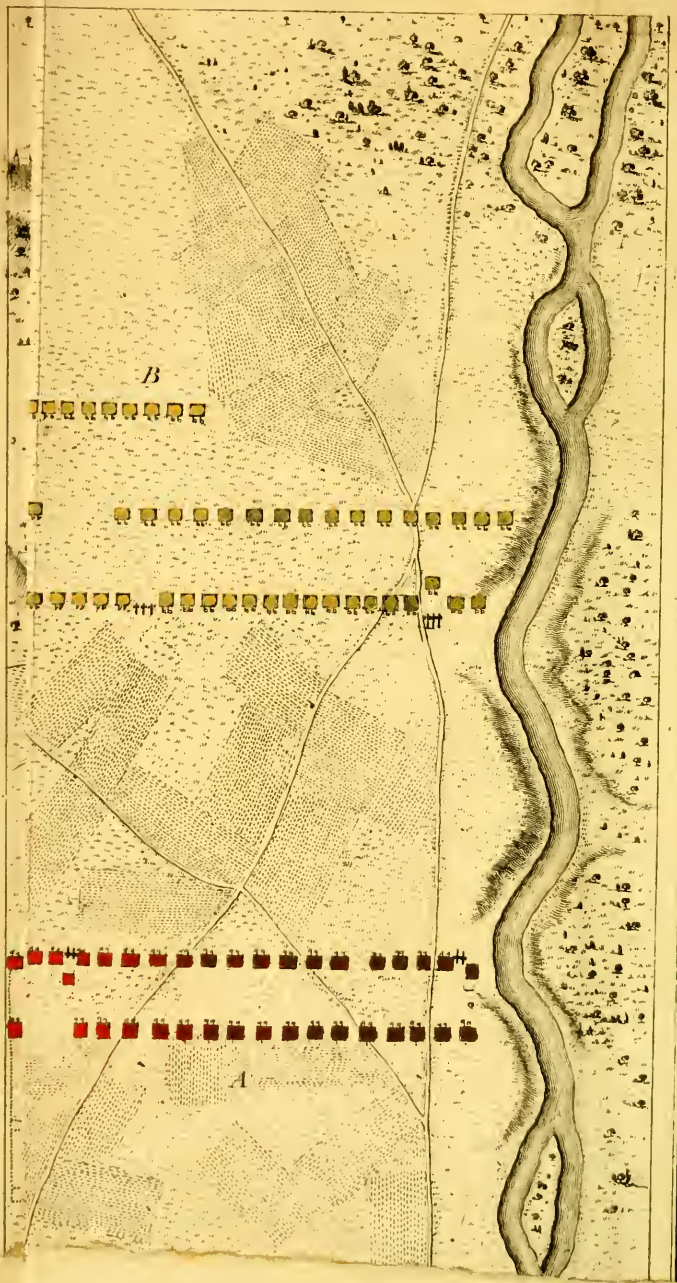
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THE

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HISTORY

OF THE

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INCLUDING,

The WARS of SCOTLAND and IRELAND.

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VOL. IV.

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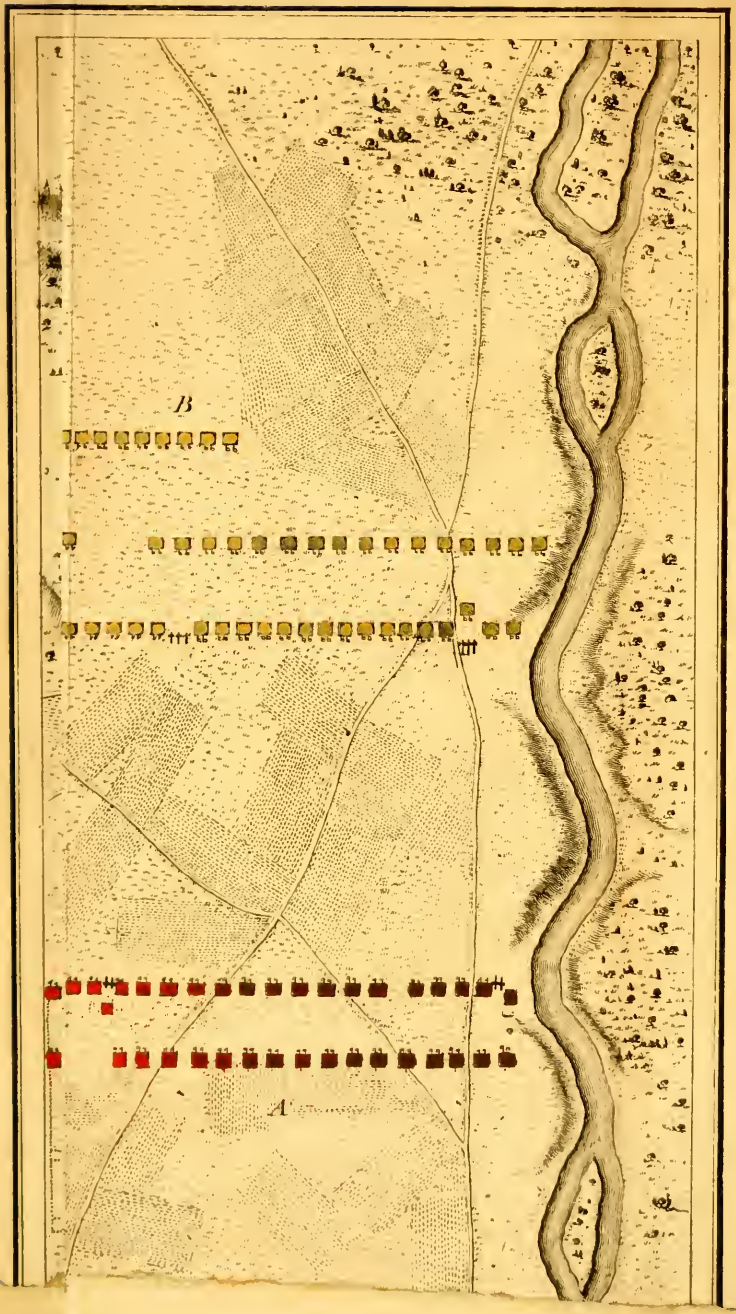
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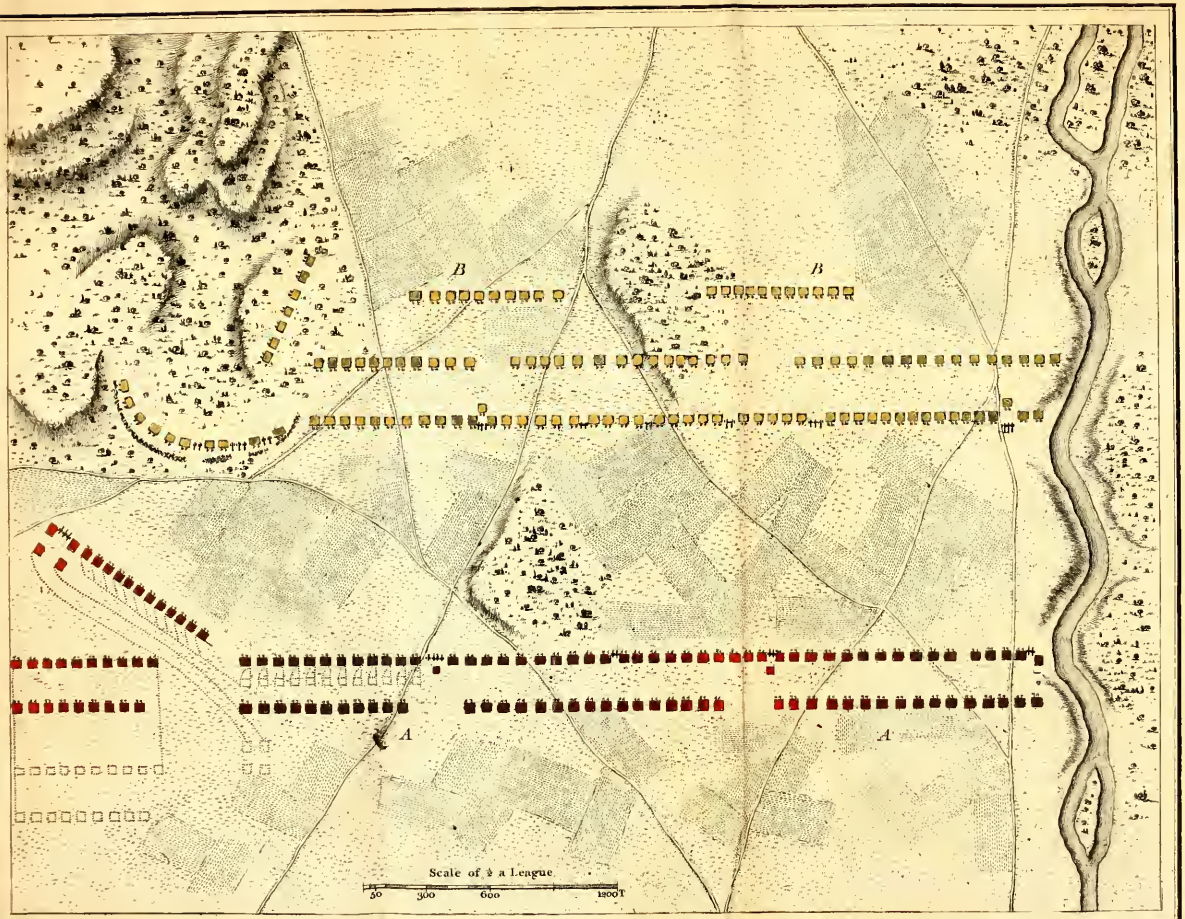

PLAN OF THE ORDER OF BATTLE.

London Published as the Act directs March 23d 1790. by J. Wilkes.

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THE

NAVAL AND MILITARY HISTORY OF THE WARS OF ENGLAND.

WARS OF ENGLAND DURING THE REIGN OF QUEEN ANNE.

ON the death of William, the Princeſs Anne, who had married George Prince of Denmark, ſucceeded to the crown, in conſequence of the act of ſucceſſion paſſed in the year 1689, being the eldeſt ſurviving daughter of James II. She was then in the thirty-eighth year of her age, and aſſumed the reins of government to the general ſatisfaction of all parties.

William had died at the eve of a war with France; and the preſent queen, who generally took the advice of her miniſtry on every important occaſion, was now urged by oppoſite counſels: a part of her miniſtry being inclined to war and another to peace. At the head of thoſe who oppoſed a war with France was the Earl of Rocheſter, lord lieutenant of Ireland, firſt couſin to the queen, and the chief of the tory faction. At the head of the oppoſite party was the Earl afterwards Duke of Marlborough, and ſince ſo much renowned for his victories over the French. After giving the reaſons for both their opinions, that of Marlborough

preponderated: the queen reſolved to declare war; and communicating her intentions to the houſe of commons, by whom it was approved, war was proclaimed accordingly. In this declaration of war, Louis was taxed with having taken poſſeſſion of a great part of the Spaniſh dominions; with deſigning to invade the liberties of Europe, to obſtruct the freedom of navigation and commerce; and with having offered an unpardonable inſult to the queen and her throne, by acknowledging the title of the pretender: he was accuſed of attempting to unite the crown of Spain to his own dominions, by placing his grandſon upon the throne of that kingdom, and thus of endeavouring to deſtroy the equality of power that ſubſiſted among the ſtates of Europe. The new queen having declared the Earl of Marlborough captain-general of all her forces, and inveſted him with the order of the Garter, wrote a letter to the States-general, to aſſure them of her inviolable friendſhip, and her reſolution to maintain her alliance with them, and to proſecute the plan which had been formed by her predeceſſor. She then ſent him as her ambaſſador extraordinary to Holland, to concert meaſures with that republic. Marlborough ſucceeded in every part of his negociation with the United Provinces. He excited the Dutch to co-operate with the reſt of the allies in the moſt effectual manner; and adjuſted all the neceſſary preparations for the enſuing campaign. He agreed with the States-general, and Imperial miniſter, that war ſhould be declared againſt France at Vienna, London, and the Hague, on the ſame day. Early in April he embarked for England, having, by his abilities and addreſs, acquired the entire confidence of the Dutch government, and being by them choſen generaliſſimo of the allied army; and indeed his after-conduct ſhewed, that no perſon could poſſibly have been choſen with greater propriety. He had learned the firſt rudiments of war under the famous Turenne, having been a volunteer

in his army; and by that general his future greatneſs was prognoſticated.

The firſt attempt that Marlborough made to deviate from the general practices of the army was to advance the ſubaltern officers, whoſe merits had been hitherto neglected. Regardleſs of ſeniority, wherever he found abilities, he was ſure to promote them; and thus he had all the upper ranks of commanders rather remarkable for their ſkill and talents than for their age and experience.

All things being now ſettled for Marlborough's firſt campaign, 1702, the ſiege of Keyſerſwert was undertaken by the earl's advice, though he was not yet arrived at the army, and the Earl of Athlone in the mean time commanded in chief. This was one of the places into which the King of France had put a garriſon, under the name of auxiliary troops of the circle of Burgundy. Keyſerſwert is a little town ſituated on the Rhine, two leagues below Duſſeldorp, and dependent on the Electorate of Cologne: its form is a parallelogram, having only one ſtreet running from end to end, defended on the land-ſide by three baſtions and four ravelins, and by two baſtions on the ſide of the Rhine. The point of an iſland which lies below the place, is capable of being made either advantageous or prejudicial to it, according to the hands it is in. The Marquis de Blainville commanded there a garriſon of ſix battalions. A detachment of Engliſh and Dutch troops which had been ſent to the ſuccour of the emperor, commanded by the Prince of Naſſau Saarbruck, had blocked up this place from the month of March; but the ſiege thereof did not begin till the 18th or 19th of April, General Dop and the Baron de Heyden having inveſted it on the 16th with the cavalry.

An army of twenty thouſand men, under Marſhal Boufflers was aſſembled near Ruremonde, where they waited the arrival of the Duke of Burgundy, who was

to

to command the army of France. As ſoon as they had an account of the ſiege of Keyſerſwert at the French court, they ſent the marſhal orders to quit that poſt, and to march with all his forces in order to ſurprize a body of troops which the allies had at Santen, under the command of the Count Tilly. Boufflers marched with his army to Wachtendonk, from whence he decamped the 25th of April in the evening, having marched all that night, and the next day he arrived on the 27th about noon at Alpen. The ſame day the Earl of Athlone arrived at Nimeguen with a body of horſe; and, as he was intent on obſerving the motions of M. de Boufflers, he marched ſtill farther without loſs of time, leaving behind him ſuch horſes as were tired. M. Boufflers, advancing with all the expedition he was able, and covering as much as poſſible his march, drew very near Santen. Count Tilly, who had received advice of his march by his parties, decamped in the night, with all poſſible expedition, which he did the more eaſily, having had the precaution to ſend his baggage and heavy artillery towards the Rhine. He left however in his camp ſome forage and ſome ammunition, which he had not time to carry away. On the 23d he arrived within a league of Cleve, where he joined the Earl of Athlone. There happened in this march a ſkirmiſh between the van of Boufflers's army and the rear of the allies, in which the latter loſt fifty, and the French a hundred and fifty, men. The marſhal, having miſcarried in his deſign, advanced on the ſide of Bonn, and began to commit hoſtilities in the countries of Cleve and Juliers.

The Count de Tallard, in the mean time, having the command of the troops of the circle of Burgundy, marched to the relief of Keyſerſwert, and, the Rhine being between him and the allies, he erected batteries to incommode the troops employed in the ſiege. This was what rendered the ſiege ſo long and bloody; for although the allies had battered the fortreſs with eight-

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and-forty pieces of cannon, and thirty mortars, and had reduced all the fortifications, and even the houſes to aſhes, yet ſo many obſtacles were thrown in their way by the governor and Count Tallard, that they could not attack the covered-way till the 9th of June. They at the ſame time attacked a ravelin, in which they made a lodgment, notwithſtanding the inceſſant fire from the place, and the enemies ſpringing three mines. After this ſucceſs, there was nothing to hinder their erecting batteries on the covered-way, and thence making ſuch a breach as would enable them to take the town by ſtorm. On the 15th therefore M. de Blainville beat the chamade, and ſurrendered the place on very honourable terms.

While this paſſed on the Rhine, the army of France, which we mentioned before, under the command of the Duke of Burgundy, who had under him M. de Boufflers, twenty lieutenant-generals, and thirty marſhals de camp, threatened Guelderland, and the reſt of the United Provinces, with an invaſion like that of the year 1672. We have before taken notice that this army was encamped at Santen, where the Duke of Burgundy arrived on the 3d of May. The Duke of Burgundy was a youth of very little experience in the art of war; but the real acting general was Marſhal Boufflers, an officer of great courage and activity. The army of the allies, commanded by the Earl of Athlone, was encamped at Clarinbeck, near Cleves, where being joined by a body of Engliſh troops, it became thirty or five and thirty thouſand ſtrong; that of France was more numerous by a third.

Boufflers, having failed of ſurprizing Count Tilly, was deſirous his pupil ſhould ſtrike a more important blow; he formed therefore a deſign of ſurprizing of Nimeguen, or at leaſt to beat up the Earl of Athlone's quarters, and to cut off his communication with the town. The Earl of Athlone having received advice, on the 10th of June, that M. de Boufflers was in full march,

march, and advanced towards Goch, between Niers and the wood of Cleves, in order to cut off his communication with Grave and Nimeguen, reſolved to remove with the whole army; but, as the horſes belonging to the artillery and carriages were at graſs, it was eight o'clock at night before they could begin their march. The earl drew up his horſe in order of battle, and there happened ſome ſlight ſkirmiſhing between him and the enemy. As he advanced the French made a halt, and he continued his retreat in good order, till he reached his infantry. The French followed him leiſurely, which made his lordſhip at firſt apprehend it was not the whole army, but a detachment only. A little after however, perceiving they made ſome ſignals with powder, the Earl of Athlone, with the advice of the other generals, reſolved to march ſtrait to Nimeguen; he ſent alſo two battalions of guards of the Prince of Orange, and two other battalions, to Grave. The French perceiving his deſign, and all their cavalry being come up, quickened their march, and came very cloſe to the earl about the heights of St. Ann. They even diſordered both his horſe and foot, but theſe being quickly ſuſtained, the enemy were puſhed in their turns; and the earl finding that they were much ſuperior in number, and that both their infantry and artillery were come up, he continued to retire within the works of Nimeguen, and thereby ſaved his army.

While things paſſed in this manner on the Rhine and the Vaſtal, all things were in motion in the Spaniſh and Dutch Flanders, in the month of April. The French, who were in poſſeſſion of the former, buſied themſelves in caſting up lines in order to cover them from the attempts of the allies; but, having carried them within reach of the cannon of Lillo, the officer who commanded in that fort fired upon their pioneers, and obliged them to quit their work. On the other ſide, the governor of Sas Van Ghent, in the night between the 7th and 10th of April, ſent a detachment of

of his garrison, with proper instruments for breaking ground, under the direction of engineers, with orders to build a fort upon the dyke between Sas Van Ghent and the village of Arsene, that he might be able to lay the country under water, in case of necessity, and to cover Sas from the bombardment with which it was threatened. And they worked with such diligence on this design, that the place by the 19th was in a posture of defence.

The night between the 8th and 9th of May, the French made an attempt on the little forts, which are in the neighbourhood of Hulst; they seized without trouble on the smallest, in which were only a serjeant and six men, who abandoned it on their approach. They afterwards with 400 men attacked the rest, but were repulsed with loss.

Much about this time, General Cohorn, who had distinguished himself in so extrardinary a manner in the siege of Namur, in the last war, and who had so well supported his reputation in the beginning of this, attacked, took, and razed, the lines in Flanders, with all their redoubts between fort Isabel and fort St. Donas. He also took the last mentioned place, where they had a garrison of 700 men, and laid all the neighbouring country under contribution.

Let us leave Flanders a little, in order to see what passed between the armies after the affair of Nimeguen. While the French, under the command of the Duke of Burgundy, pillaged the city of Cleves, and destroyed its fine park, in the month of June, M. de Grovesteins, colonel of the regiment of Frieze, marched with a detachment of 300 horse, to reconnoitre the enemy; he met with a party of their horse, consisting of 400 men, and resolved to attack them, notwithstanding their superiority. He ordered his men not to fire, and, having received their's, he attacked them sword in hand; and, having put them to flight, he pursued them for half an hour till he came to a defile; then he

cauſed a retreat to be ſounded, having had ſeventy-ſix men killed and wounded, himſelf alſo receiving ſix or ſeven ſlight cuts; the French loſt more than 150 men, and three officers taken priſoners.

But all this was only the prelude to the campaign; we are now coming to events much more conſiderable. The French, after having been victors ſo long, were now to be vanquiſhed in their turns, and to loſe all their conqueſts.

The Earl of Marlborough arrived on the 2d of July at Nimeguen, where the Earl of Athlone and General Dop came next day to compliment him, and receive his orders. He aſſembled there an army of ſixty thouſand men, compoſed of nineteen battalions of the troops which had been employed in the ſiege of Keyſerſwert, thoſe of Lunenburg and Heſſe, and the Engliſh which were at Breda. With theſe forces, and ſome other bodies which joined him, he encamped at Duckenberg; there he held a council of war of all the general officers, in order to concert the operations for the remainder of the campaign. He then cauſed the army of the allies to croſs the Meuſe, near Grave, and encamped within two leagues and a half of the French, who were entrenched between Goch and Genep. After ſeveral marches, and other motions to provoke the French to a battle, his lordſhip evidently perceived that they were as deſirous to avoid as he was to come to an engagement, which they ſhewed by retreating continually, or by poſting themſelves in inacceſſible places; he therefore reſolved in concert with the deputies of the States General, to endeavour to drive the enemy from ſuch places as they had on the Meuſe, in order to ſecure the navigation of the river, and the communication with Maeſtricht.

They began with Venlo. This place was inveſted on the 29th of Auguſt; and, as the Duke of Burgundy did not come under the tuition of M. Boufflers to ſee the French towns taken, he immediately ſet out

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on his return to Paris. Venlo is ſituate on the banks of a little iſle which is formed by the junction of the Meuſe with the rivulet of Staven. It is ſaid that in the year 1588, the firſt bombs were thrown againſt this place, and that in a little time after they were with greater ſucceſs made uſe of at the ſiege of Wachtendonck. The Prince of Naſſau Saarbruck commanded the ſiege, and General Cohorn had the direction of the attacks. The batteries being got ready, they fired upon the place on the 15th, with all the fury imaginable; they began on the 16th the attack of fort St. Michael, which is on the other ſide of the river, and the Engliſh, under Lord Cutts, carried it by aſſault on the 18th, having entered it with the French, after having driven them from the covered-way. The garriſon was conducted to Boiſleduc and to Nimeguen; and they immediately erected a battery in the fort, from whence they played on the town. On the 22d it was taken by a very ſingular accident. The beſiegers having received news of the taking Landau, the troops employed in the ſiege were drawn up in order of battle to make three general diſcharges of the artillery and ſmall arms, according to the cuſtom; the beſieged, who were already in diſtreſs, obſerving this, and conceiving that they were about to make a general aſſault, immediately beat the chamade, and, hoſtages being given on each ſide, the capitulation was ſigned on the 23d, and the garriſon conducted to Antwerp.

Soon after the taking of Venlo, the Count de Noyelles was detached with a body of troops to beſiege Stevenſweert, and the Prince of Naſſau Saarbruck to inveſt Ruremonde. The perſon who commanded Stevenſweert did not ſtay till a breach was made before he yielded the place; he capitulated on the 1ſt of October, and on the 3d he and his garriſon marched out in order to be conducted to Namur. The trenches were opened before Ruremonde in the night, between the 2d and 3d of October; and, as the ſiege was car-

ried on with great vigour, it was brought to capitulate on the 7th, and the garriſon marched out on the 9th with four pieces of cannon, in order to be conducted to Louvain.

Although the ſeaſon was now pretty far advanced, yet the allies, animated by the ſucceſs of their arms, reſolved to finiſh the campaign with the conqueſt of a place of as great importance as they had yet taken. It ſeems that M. Boufflers had ſome apprehenſion of their deſign, and that he was in pain for Liege; he went twice to that city, the firſt on the 27th of September, and again on the 2d of October; he viſited very carefully the citadels, and all the advantageous poſts between Liege and Maeſtricht, as if he intended to encamp ſomewhere between thoſe cities; but no ſooner was he informed that the Earl of Marlborough was in motion, and that he was marching directly to Liege, but he quitted precipitately his camp of Tongres, and retired behind the lines of Brabant, in order to cover the places in that province which hitherto had not been attacked.

The army of the allies appeared on the 13th of October before Liege, and ſoon after their troops entered the town, which the French had abandoned in the morning, in order to retire to the citadels. On the 20th in the morning, the batteries being in order, the allies began to fire on the citadel, and the ſame evening the trenches were opened in two places, in order that two attacks might be made, one by the Engliſh on the right, and the other by the Dutch on the left. They puſhed their approaches that night within forty paces of the counterſcarp. The next day the trenches were enlarged and perfected. The allies were ſo fortunate as to loſe only a ſmall number of men in this ſiege, notwithſtanding the prodigious fire made by the French. An aſſault was made on the 23d, between four and five in the evening; and, though nothing more was deſigned than to make a lodgment on the counter-

counterſcarp, yet in the ſpace of half an hour it was carried, and the ſoldiers having puſhed the enemy to the breach, and made themſelves maſters thereof, entered the citadel on every ſide, which they likewiſe carried ſword in hand, and gained therein a very conſiderable booty. M. de Violaine, the governor, was taken in the breach, with ſeveral other officers; and, after ſome ſlaughter, which could not be prevented in the firſt ſhock, the garriſon, amounting to eight battalions, were made priſoners without any capitulation.

The armies ſeparated ſome time after, in order to go into winter-quarters, and the Earl of Marlborough ſet out for the Hague with Mr. Geldermalſen, deputy of the States, eſcorted only by a lieutenant and twenty-five men. At Ruremonde they joined M. Cohorn, and continued their voyage together, under an eſcort of ſixty horſe, beſides ſixty men more who were with General Cohorn in his yacht. Their excellencies arrived the 4th of November at Venlo, where they were furniſhed with a freſh eſcort. But coming in the night to a place two or three leagues below Venlo, where the cavalry were obliged to march at a conſiderable diſtance from the river, and the two yachts being ſeparated from each other, a party of thirty-five men from the garriſon of Guelders iſſued from an ambuſcade, and attacked the veſſel wherein the earl was. They preſently laid hold of the rope, dragged the yacht towards the ſhore, making at the ſame time a general diſcharge, throwing into it ſeveral grenades, and at laſt boarding and making themſelves maſters of the yacht, in ſpite of the five and twenty ſoldiers who were therein. The commander of the party having demanded if they had any paſſports, M. D'Obdam and Mr. Geldermalſen produced theirs, which were according to form. The Earl of Marlborough had one which had been made uſe of by his brother General Churchill, but now expired; he tendered it however with ſo much calmneſs, and ſuch preſence of mind, that

that the partisan took it for a good one, and, having searched their baggage, seized what silver plate they found, and made the escort of five-and-twenty men prisoners, they left their excellencies to pursue their voyage in peace.

Though it be our design to give only an exact account of the actions wherein the English forces were more particularly concerned, yet we shall also point out in a few words the principal events of every campaign in the several countries wherein the war was carried on by the allies of England.

The emperor had assembled on the Rhine an army of forty thousand men, commanded by Prince Lewis of Baden, under the King of the Romans, afterwards the Emperor Joseph. The Marshal de Catinat commanded the army of France, which was not strong enough to act offensively. The Prince of Baden opened the campaign by the siege of the important fortress of Landa. M. de Melac, a lieutenant-general, commanded in that place; and, being apprised of the design of the Imperial general, he took all imaginable precautions, in order to render it abortive, by causing several outworks to be raised to impede the progress of the Imperialists, and to give time to the Marshal de Catinat and Lieutenant-general d'Uxelles, who commanded in Alsace, to come to his relief. The siege was very long, and afforded several officers of distinction opportunities of acquiring glory. The place capitulated on the 10th of September.

The moment Landau surrendered, the Elector of Bavaria, who hitherto had not declared, possessed himself by surprise of the city of Ulm, in order to punish, as he pretended, the circles of Suabia and Franconia, for having taken part with the emperor, notwithstanding a treaty of association they had made with his electoral highness for maintaining the tranquillity of the empire. This action, which was not at all expected, was followed by his most Christian majesty's sending orders

orders to the Marquis de Villars to march with a part of the army on the other side of the Rhine, in order to join the Duke of Bavaria, who was advancing through the Black Forest. The marquis marched accordingly to Hunninguen, in order to pass the Rhine there; but the Prince of Baden, always vigilant, prevented him, and rendered that passage far more difficult than it was imagined at the court of Versailles, as it produced a very bloody engagement between Fredilingen and Etlingen, where no less than 4000 men on one side and the other remained dead in the field. In this action both parties attributed to themselves the glory of the day. The King of France caused *Te Deum* to be sung at Versailles; and, to make the world believe he was thoroughly persuaded his troops had obtained the victory, he sent the staff of a marshal to the Marquis of Villars, who had commanded them. The Imperialists, as they had remained masters of the field of battle, and obliged the French to return to the other side of the Rhine, claimed, with greater justice, the honour of this victory, and sang *Te Deum* also.

Prince Eugene commanded the imperial forces in Italy. Mantua and Cremona, situated almost in the very centre of his quarters, excited his attention in the highest degree; these two places might be regarded on that side as the keys of Italy, and especially of the Milanese. In the hands of the enemy they were continual obstacles to all the designs he could form. In his own they would have established a double communication with the dominions of the house of Austria, viz. with the Trentin on one side, and the Adriatic sea on the other. But, if the prince had so just an idea of the importance of these places, the enemy likewise were far from being ignorant of their use; and in consequence they had eight thousand men in garrison at Mantua, and very near as many in Cremona.

The prince however neglected not to form designs

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on both, during the winter, favoured therein by the diſpoſition of his quarters, which lay between theſe places, and extended as far as the Parmeſan. A ſtrait blockade ſeemed to him the only proper method for reducing Mantua, by cutting off from thoſe in the town all manner of ſubſiſtence; and in the mean time he formed a project to ſurpriſe Cremona. He had good intelligence in the town; and he underſtood from thoſe with whom he held correſpondence, that there was a certain old aqueduct which had been long neglected, and which lay out of the way, whereby a conſiderable body of troops might be ſecretly introduced into the place; he took care to have all this examined, and, finding that things were in fact as they were reported, he fixed the execution of this enterprize for the 1ſt of February. In order to execute the deſign with the leſs noiſe, he reſolved to employ therein ſix thouſand men horſe and foot; three thouſand taken from the quarters in the Mantuan, and three thouſand drawn from the territories of Parma. The firſt-mentioned body, under the command of Prince Commerci and Count Staremberg, appeared at three o'clock in the morning before the gate of St. Margaret; and the latter, under the command of the young Prince of Vaudemont, advanced to the gate of the Po, to be in readineſs to enter as ſoon as the place was ſeized, and the gate ſet open. All things were executed exactly as the prince had deſigned, without the leaſt noiſe or confuſion; they approached in ſilence the Canetta, which runs into the ditch of the town; over this they threw a bridge without being diſcovered, and reached the aqueduct, whereby upwards of a thouſand men entered the town without the enemy's perceiving them, or knowing any thing of the matter. In leſs than an hour the gate of St. Margaret was forced, the corps de garde put to the ſword, and ſeveral poſts in the town taken; afterwards the cavalry entered without the leaſt oppoſition, and rode full ſpeed to the poſts

which had been aſſigned them. The prince entered at the ſame time, and directed the whole action. By this time the enemy perceived that it was no longer time to ſleep. They ran from all parts; they got together; they formed themſelves as well as they could; the prince cauſed them to be charged on all ſides: in ſome places they were forced, in others they defended themſelves like lions. M. Villeroy was made priſoner in the very beginning of the action, and with him the M. de Crenan, lieutenant-general, who was mortally wounded. They made themſelves maſters of the town-houſe, the great ſquare, and the principal church. If they had been able to poſſeſs themſelves of the Po gate, and have opened it to Prince Vaudemont, the thing would have been done, the place taken, and the garriſon made priſoners of war: but two Iriſh regiments who were poſted there defended themſelves ſo well, that it was impoſſible to force that gate. They did not however neglect ſeizing all the boats they could meet with, and ſending them to Prince Vaudemont, in order for him to have paſſed over his foot in ſome other place; but, there not being a ſufficient number of theſe veſſels, his croſſing the river was therefore retarded, ſo that evening coming on, and the engagement having laſted eleven hours, the prince ordered his troops to retire, which they did leiſurely, and in excellent order. The French, perfectly well pleaſed to be rid of ſuch dangerous gueſts, did not think fit to trouble themſelves with following them out of town; and therefore made no purſuit. The number of priſoners made on this occaſion was nearly equal on one ſide and the other; but that of the dead and the wounded was by far greater on the ſide of the French than on that of the Imperialiſts, becauſe a great number of the former were killed before they could rally: beſides, there were ninety officers taken, who with Marſhal de Villeroy were carried to Inſpruck.

Prince Eugene may be juſtly ſaid to have acquired

as much glory as if the affair had ſucceeded, ſince nothing could have been better concerted, and ſince his project was rendered abortive by mere accidents which it was impoſſible for him to prevent. But, beſides glory, he reaped from his enterpriſe ſome conſiderable advantages, by rendering himſelf maſter of ſeveral important poſts upon the Oglio; for the M. de Crequi, having been informed that Cremona was ſurpriſed, withdrew all the detachments he had in thoſe places, in order to form a body conſiderable enough to enable him to ſuccour that town; his highneſs therefore took poſſeſſion at his return of Gazolo, Bozolo, St. Martino, Torre d'Oglio, and Viadana. Prince Vaudemont alſo took Baſſeto in the Parmeſan, and made its garriſon priſoners of war.

In the mean time the blockade of Mantua was continued with the utmoſt vigour; it laſted eight months, ſo that an account of it would be very tedious. What ſaved Mantua was the extraordinary diligence the court of France uſed in ſending all ſorts of reinforcements into Italy. In the beginning of March, twenty-five thouſand men entered it by the way of Genoa, Final, and other places. The Duke de Vendome was alſo ſent thither to command in the ſtead of the M. Villeroy; and, as he was in high eſteem on account of his great knowledge in the art of war, it was not all doubted in France, but that a mighty change would happen after his arrival. He contented himſelf however with throwing ſome proviſions into the place, and did not attempt raiſing the blockade till after he had been two months in Italy. At laſt on the 24th of May he entered Mantua, with a grand convoy of ammunition and proviſion, at the head of forty thouſand men. Yet Mantua was not abſolutely free, for the prince did not abandon his principal poſts. He had taken four days before a place called Cerez, which is a gate to Mantua. He kept it, deſtroyed its fortifications, and erected there

there such new works as were necessary for the security of his troops.

The body of Prince Eugene's army was encamped between the canal called Fossa Maestra and the Mincio, fronting towards Mantua, and having the Po in its rear.---On the 3d of June the Duke de Vendome encamped with his army within cannon-shot of him, his right stretching to the confluence of Ozona, with the Fossa Maestra, and his left to Santa Maria delle Gratie.

In this situation, Prince Eugene having on his skirts the French army of fifty thousand strong, carried on the blockade of Mantua, and pressed it with all the vigour of a formal siege. By his orders, the young Count de Daun made himself master of a new post near the gate of Pradella, at the head of only five or six hundred men, in which he made a lodgment, notwithstanding the incessant fire from the ramparts. Those within made several sallies, but were repulsed. The Duke of Vendome, who was a spectator of all this, did nothing towards their relief, though his army was superior to that of his highness by twenty thousand men.

But to do justice to that general, he had his hands tied as to giving battle. King Philip persuading himself, that, with so great a superiority of troops, he could not fight without gaining a signal victory, desired to reserve to himself so great an honour, and absolutely forbade him undertaking any thing which might bring on a decisive engagement. "I apprehend," says he in his letter of the 9th of May, "that you will not beat the enemy before my arrival. I give you leave to succour Mantua; but stop there, and wait for my coming before you attempt any thing farther."

That prince, who seemed to have come into Italy to no other purpose than to make a parade with the utmost pomp and magnificence, and to draw from every quarter visits, persons to do him homage, and

embaſſies, had nevertheleſs a ſtrong deſire to ſignalize this journey of his by ſome extraordinary feat in war; for this reaſon he quitted his pleaſant ſituation at Naples to go into Lombardy, where he doubted not that victory waited to crown him with never-fading laurels. The 11th of June he landed at Final, the 18th he made his entry into Milan; all the ſtreets being adorned with tapeſtries and pictures; on the 3d of July he went to Cremona, where the Dukes of Parma and Mantua came to pay him their viſits. Three thouſand men, who had eſcorted him from Naples, joined the army about the ſame time; this was a new reinforcement which he thought would give certainty to their hopes.

The different motions made by the enemy in the month of July, furniſhed them at length with an opportunity of ſurpriſing and defeating three regiments of Imperial horſe at Santa Vittoria. They loſt however a very great number of men on their ſide; for the Imperialiſts, notwithſtanding their being ſurpriſed, defended themſelves with great vigour for a long time, but in the end they were defeated, and the Duke of Anjou had the pleaſure of coming in at the cloſe of this ſmall engagement, which happened on the 26th of July.

The French troops entered the duchy of Modena; whereupon the duke, ſtruck with the ſight of ſo formidable an army in the heart of his country, retired immediately to Bologna, with the princes his ſons, and all his family. The towns of Modena and Reggio ſubmitted themſelves in conſequence of this, either by the duke's order, or out of fear; Carpi did not ſtay to be ſummoned, the other places followed their example, and all this was done with ſuch precipitation, that the enemy in five days found themſelves in poſſeſſion of the whole country, excepting only Berſello, in which there was an Imperial garriſon.

It was apprehended that after this the ſeveral places on the banks of the Po would fall into the hands of

the enemy one after another. There was only one way to prevent this, which was by giving battle, and in order thereto it was neceſſary to abandon the blockade of Mantua; a motion difficult and dangerous, ſince the old Prince of Vaudemont was poſted at Rivalta, and had the Imperial troops in ſight. It was performed, however, even without loſs. Silence and the night, thoſe faithful attendants on ſecrecy, ſo well concealed their march, that the Prince of Vaudemont had not the leaſt knowledge of it.

The ſame day, being the 1ſt of Auguſt, the Imperial army paſſed the Po, and encamped at Soileto, excepting twelve battalions, which the prince left before Borgoforte, in order to ſecure that place. He had upwards of four thouſand men in Berſello, a thouſand in Ottiglia, fifteen hundred in Guaſtalla, five hundred in Luzzara, and as many in Mirandola; ſo that his army did not conſiſt of above twenty-five thouſand men. The young king had with him thirty-five thouſand men, ſo that nothing hindered him from gratifying that extreme deſire he had ſhewn for fighting at the beginning of the campaign. But, knowing how great a captain he had to deal with, he thought it more expedient to ſtay till the Prince of Vaudemont joined him than to hazard a battle without him. This however was not effected, for that general had marched to Borgoforte with ſome view of forcing the twelve battalions who were entrenched there, and even the place itſelf; but, not being able to ſucceed, he reſolved to leave a conſiderable body of troops before it, and to march with only a few thouſand men to reinforce the grand army.

Theſe precautions taken, King Philip, whoſe army lay at Teſta, decamped in the night between the 14th and 15th of Auguſt, without beating the generale, and without ſound of trumpet, marching directly to Luzzara, which they doubted not to ſurpriſe by ſo ſudden an attack. They were greatly elated by the ſmall advantage

vantage they had gained in the trifling action at Santa Vittoria. The army arrived there about eight o'clock in the morning, and immediately ſummoned the commander, but in vain: that officer returned no anſwer but from the mouths of his artillery and ſmall arms; by a ſhot of the latter the Count of Sezane had his arm broke. Prince Eugene, upon being informed of this motion of the enemy, immediately put his army on the march, ſo that by three o'clock in the afternoon the two armies were in ſight. That of the enemy had time to take all advantages; it was ſo poſted as to have Luzzara behind it; its left ſtretched towards the Po, and on the right it had ſome caſſines which were fortified. The dike of the Po divided it in two, but in a manner very favourable for its defence, becauſe it ſerved as an entrenchment to both wings; and the Duke of Vendome had placed a battery of cannon upon it which commanded the country on both ſides. The left was covered by an eminence and a coppice, the avenues of which they had ſtopped up by felling ſeveral trees. On the right they made uſe of ſeveral ditches which happened luckily enough to be there. The enemy formed all the troops in one line, with two corps of horſe and foot poſted in reſerve to ſupport their right and left.

This diſpoſition of the battle and of the country obliged Prince Eugene wholly to change his. His firſt and ſecond line became now his right and left wings; the one ſeparated from the other as the enemies were by the dike of the Po, on which there was raiſed a counter-battery of four pieces of cannon, a caſſine which they found before the left wing, and pretty near the bank, was garriſoned; and, as they perceived the left wing of the enemy had been reinforced by a conſiderable body of foot, who had lined the bank of the Po, they oppoſed thereto a body of men commanded by the Prince of Commercy, ſtrengthened by a part of the firſt line, and ſuſtained by cavalry; ſo that it formed

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an advanced corps before the right wing, at the head of which Prince Commercy put himself.

As to the strength of the two armies, that of the French consisted of fifty-three battalions, and one hundred and one squadrons, that of the emperor of thirty-four battalions, and seventy-five squadrons. Though the young king was present in the French army, it was the Duke of Vendome that commanded. In the Imperial army, the Prince of Commercy and the young Prince of Vaudemont led the right wing; Count Staremberg and Count Trautmansdorf the left. Prince Eugene was at the head of the whole; and about five in the afternoon he gave the signal of battle; but, as the French army declined coming out of their intrenchments, Prince Eugene advanced and attacked them in their posts. Unfortunately this first attack cost the life of Prince Commercy, and occasioned some confusion among the troops, inasmuch as he was killed at their head, and was a person much beloved and esteemed. They attacked the enemy a second, a third, and a fourth, time; and at length forced some regiments to give way; they possessed themselves of the ground upon which these troops were drawn up, and in some places pushed the enemy a mile outright from the field of battle.

The case was pretty near the same on the left. At first the extraordinary fire of the enemy retarded for a while the progress of the Imperialists, and even put them into confusion. The Prince of Lichtenstein received five wounds, and the Count de Trautmansdorf, general of the horse, had the misfortune to have his foot so shattered as to be obliged to be carried off. Several other officers were killed or wounded; and in one of these charges the enemy pierced quite through the line of the Imperialists, and reached the young Prince de Vaudemont, who commanded in the rear a reserve of twelve or fifteen squadrons; but they were received

received in such a manner as gave them no inclination to approach a second time.

The event of this engagement was, that night separated the armies; that on the side of the Po the enemy lost a mile of country, and all their wounded, their ammunition, tents and instruments belonging to their pioneers; and at last they were forced to retire, and so the field of battle remained entirely in the possession of the Imperialists. This gave them room to claim the victory, nor was this claim weakened by the computation which was afterwards made of the number of men it had cost; for on the side of the Imperialists 791 were killed, and 1904 wounded; that of the enemy could not be certainly known; in their accounts they mentioned only 2500 men killed and wounded; but, from all the circumstances which could be collected, there fell not fewer than four or five thousand men, among whom were a great number of distinction; they lost also seven standards, and we only one.

As to the consequences of the battle, they were the same as if there had been no battle at all; the two armies remained in their posts, which they kept to the very end of the campaign, without losing or gaining an inch of ground on one side or the other. Luzzara, which was surrounded on all sides, surrendered at discretion to the Duke of Vendome, on the 17th, at four o'clock in the morning; and Guastalla, which was no more than an open town, without any outworks or palisades, held out eleven days, and obtained an honourable capitulation. The French then laid siege to Borgoforte, which the Count de Tessé invested with a detachment from the garrison of Mantua, which finished that campaign; if we except the Duke of Vendome's causing Governolo to be attacked in December.---On the other hand, Prince Eugene formed a design for the surprising of Mantua, notwithstanding its numerous garrison; and he would certainly have succeeded therein if notice had not been given of it

it to the Duke of Vendome. His highneſs with this view poſted conſiderable bodies of troops in the neighbourhood of Mantua, and gave out that he would block up that place during the winter. His intelligence in the town not being ſufficient to anſwer his purpoſe, ſome of his emiſſaries attempted to corrupt an officer of the garriſon to open one of the gates. The officer pretended to liſten to their propoſal, but he gave notice of it to M. de Vendome, who immediately took proper meaſures for ſurpriſing Prince Eugene, when he ſhould attempt the putting his project in execution. He acted with ſuch precaution that the blow he intended could not poſſibly have failed, if an old ſoldier had not deſerted in the night, and given intelligence to Prince Eugene, who was actually on his march; and by this means both generals were diſappointed.

The good ſucceſs which England and her allies had had by land this campaign, ſeemed to conſole the nation for ſome unſucceſsful expeditions at ſea. Of the operations at ſea for this year we ſhall now proceed to ſpeak.

Prince George of Denmark, the queen's conſort, was placed at the head of the admiralty, in the room of the Earl of Pembroke. This new lord high-admiral had a council appointed him, conſiſting of Sir George Rooke, now created vice-admiral of England; Sir David Mitchell, George Churchill, Eſq. now created admiral of the red, in the room of Aylmer, afterwards Lord Aylmer; and Richard Hill, Eſq. who were to aſſiſt him with their advice.

Immediately on the declaration of war, Sir John Munden, rear-admiral of the red, was ſent to the coaſt of Spain with a ſquadron, conſiſting of eight ſhips of the third rate, one fourth rate, and two frigates, to intercept a French ſquadron that was to ſail from Corunna, or the Groyne, with the Duke of Albuquerque, appointed viceroy of Mexico, and whom they were to eſcort thither. On the 18th of May this fleet arrived

off Finiſterre; and the ſhips ſent out to gain intelligence of the enemy fell in with, and took, a French ſhip from Martinico. On the night of the 25th the admiral ſent in a ſmack, which brought off a Spaniſh boat, and a French bark, with ſeveral priſoners, who informed him that there were thirteen French ſhips of war, bound from Rochelle to the Groyne. Hereupon Sir John Munden carried a preſſed ſail, with a view to get to windward, and thereby intercept them before they could reach the harbour, and iſſued orders to all his captains to put their ſhips in immediate readineſs for battle. On the 28th, fourteen ſail of ſhips were deſcried between Cape Prior and Cape Ortegal, cloſe under the ſhore. The ſignal was immediately thrown out to chaſe, but, before they could come up with them, they had all got ſafe into the Groyne. The information received from priſoners led the admiral to conclude, that twelve of the ſhips which he had chaced were French men of war of the line, and that three more fifty-gun ſhips lay in port. Intelligence had likewiſe been received, that the town was farther defended by two thouſand land-forces. It was likewiſe well known to be a place of ſtrength, and the entrance into the harbour particularly difficult. A council of war was hereupon called, in which it was unanimouſly reſolved, that all attempts at deſtroying the ſhipping ſo protected would prove ineffectual, and that to continue to lie off the harbour would be attended with no advantages whatever. It was therefore judged proper to repair into the ſoundings, there to protect the trade. Of theſe ſteps the admiral ſent an account to the lord high-admiral, and cruiſed with his fleet in the latitude of 49° 30′, thirty leagues to the weſtward of Scilly, until the 20th of June, when, water growing ſcarce, and the ſhips having ſuffered by bad weather, the fleet returned to port. The miſcarriage of this expedition raiſed murmurs among the people; therefore it was thought neceſſary to appoint a court-martial

tial for the trial of Sir John Munden. This court were of opinion, that he had fully cleared himſelf, had complied with his inſtructions, and behaved himſelf with great zeal and diligence. However, notwithſtanding this acquittal, it was thought proper to lay him aſide, that the public ſervice, at the commencement of a war, might not be injured by lenity ſhewn to inactive commanders.

Great preparations had been made before the death of King William, to fit out a grand fleet, the command of which was then deſigned for the Earl of Pembroke, which would have had on-board a large body of land-forces, headed by the Duke of Ormond, in order to get poſſeſſion of Cadiz for the archduke Charles. It was farther intended, to keep up a large naval force in the Weſt-Indies, whereby the poſſeſſions of Spain in that quarter of the world might be effectually annoyed, and the conteſt for the Spaniſh ſucceſſion brought to a ſpeedy iſſue, in favour of the maritime intereſts. Preparations were carried on with great diligence during the winter, to execute this important plan; and ſuch was the ſecrecy with which its object was concealed, that France, Spain, and even Portugal, who was then in their alliance, were equally alarmed at it. The new reign did not impede this deſign; only the Earl of Pembroke, who had retired from his employments, was ſucceeded in the command of the fleet by Sir George Rooke. The admiral hoiſted the union flag on board the Royal Sovereign, on the 30th day May, 1702. The Dutch fleet, which joined the Engliſh, bore five flags, viz. two admirals, two vice-admirals, and a rear-admiral. This combined fleet conſiſted of thirty Engliſh ſhips of the line, and twenty Dutch; and the ſmall veſſels, tranſports, and tenders, which accompanied it, made the whole amount to one hundred and ſixty ſail. The Engliſh land-forces amounted to near ten thouſand men, and the Dutch to four thouſand. In the latter end of June the fleet

ſailed from St. Helen's, but did not clear the Engliſh coaſt till the latter end of July; and on the 12th of Auguſt anchored within two leagues of Cadiz. Next day the Duke of Ormond ſent a trumpet to Cadiz, with a letter to the Duke de Brancaccio, the governor, requiring him to ſubmit to the houſe of Auſtria: Brancaccio anſwered, "he would acquit himſelf honourably of the truſt repoſed in him by the king." On the 15th Ormond landed his forces on the Bay of Bulls, under cover of a ſmart fire from ſome frigates, and repulſed a body of Spaniſh cavalry. Then he ſummoned the governor of fort St. Catharine to ſurrender, who replied, "he had cannon mounted, and powder and ball ready to receive him." A declaration was publiſhed in the Spaniſh language, intimating, that the allies did not come as enemies to Spain, but only to free them from the yoke of France, and aſſiſt them in eſtabliſhing themſelves under the government of the houſe of Auſtria. Theſe profeſſions produced very little effect among the Spaniards, who were either cooled in their attachment to that family, or provoked by the depredations committed by the troops, who, having maſtered fort St. Catharine and port St. Mary, inſtead of protecting the inhabitants, plundered them, in defiance of the ſtrict orders iſſued by the commander in chief: even ſome general officers were concerned in the pillage; two of whom, Sir ---- Bellaſis and Sir Charles Hara, were put under arreſt, when they returned to England. The former was diſmiſſed the ſervice, but the latter was acquitted, though not in the public opinion. It being found too difficult to approach Cadiz whilſt the Spaniards were in poſſeſſion of Matagorda fort, oppoſite to the Puntal, it was ordered to be attacked; but the attempt miſcarried, and the troops were re-imbarked, with intention to return home.

Captain Hardy, in the Pembroke, having been ſent to water in Lagos Bay, received intelligence from Mr. Methuen, her majeſty's envoy at Liſbon, that the galleons

leons from the West-Indies had put into Vigo, under convoy of a French squadron. Hardy, on receiving this important information, set sail immediately in quest of Sir George Rooke, who was now out at sea on his his return to England. It was not until the 7th day of October that he reached the fleet, when, having imparted his intelligence, Rooke called a council of war, in which it was determined to alter the course of the fleet, and sail immediately to the port of Vigo, and attack the enemy. Some small vessels were immediately dispatched to gain intelligence; from whom the admiral was informed, that the French squadron, commanded by Chateau Renault, and the Spanish galleons, were in the harbour; but the wind, blowing a storm, drove the fleet to the northward as far as Cape Finisterre, so that it could not make the port of Vigo till the 11th. The passage into the harbour was narrow, secured by batteries, forts, and breast-works, on each side; across the entrance of the harbour was thrown a strong boom, consisting of iron chains, topmasts, and cables, moored at each end to a seventy-gun ship. Within the boom were moored five ships, of between sixty and seventy guns each, with their broadsides fronting the entrance of the passage. As the first and second rate ships of the combined fleets were too large to enter, the admirals removed their flags into third-rates; and a detachment of fifteen English and ten Dutch men of war, with all the fire-ships, frigates, and bomb-ketches, were ordered upon the service. In order to facilitate the attack, the Duke of Ormond landed two thousand five hundred men on the south side of the river Minho, about six miles from Vigo, and took, by assault, a fort and platform of forty pieces of cannon, at the entrance of the harbour. As soon as the English flag was seen flying from the place, the ships advanced to attack. Vice-admiral Hopson, in the Torbay, crowding all his sail, ran directly against the boom, which was broken by the first shock; and then

then the Kent, with the reſt of the ſquadron, Engliſh and Dutch, entered the harbour, through a prodigious fire from the enemy's ſhips and batteries. Theſe laſt however were ſoon ſtormed, and taken by the grenadiers who had been landed. The great ſhips lay againſt the forts at each ſide of the harbour, which, in a little time, they ſilenced; though Vice-admiral Hopſon narrowly eſcaped from a fire-ſhip by which he was boarded. After a very vigorous engagement, the French finding themſelves unable to cope with ſuch an adverſary, reſolved to deſtroy their ſhips and galleons, to prevent their falling into the hands of the victors. The loſs which the navy of France ſuſtained by this ſtroke, was nearly equal to that which they ſuffered ten years before at La Hogue; and although the plate-fleet, by having been arrived twenty-five days in port before the attack was made, had unladen great part of its treaſure and merchandize, yet the ſpoils made by the conquerors were conſiderable. Six galleons were taken by the Engliſh, and five by the Dutch, who ſunk ſix. The galleons had on-board twenty millions of pieces of eight, beſides merchandize which was thought of equal value. Of the ſilver, fourteen millions were ſaved; of the goods about five. Four millions of plate were deſtroyed, with ten millions of merchandize; and about two millions in ſilver, and five in goods, were brought away by the Engliſh and Dutch. This great exploit was atchieved with very inconſiderable loſs. Very few on board the ſhips were killed, though the foremoſt of the fleet ſuffered greatly in their hulls: of the troops, only two lieutenants and thirty men were killed, and four ſuperior officers wounded. Immediately after the action, Sir Cloudeſley Shovel, who had been ſent out with a ſquadron to intercept the galleons, joined Sir George Rooke. The admiral left this officer to complete the deſtruction of ſuch French ſhips as could not be brought off, and to bring home the prizes, whilſt he himſelf returned with the grand fleet to England. By this

this blow, the naval power of France received so deep a wound, that it languished during the whole war.

The vigour with which the war was carried on by sea, gave the most favourable presages of success. Whilst these great efforts were making in Europe, two squadrons were sent to the western hemisphere. One, commanded by Commodore Leake, sailed the 24th of June for Newfoundland; whilst a fleet under Admiral Benbow had, for some time, been stationed in the West-Indies. Leake executed his instructions so successfully, that by the end of October he had made prize of twenty-nine sail of French ships, and burnt two. He also burnt and destroyed all the fishing-boats and stages, together with a fort belonging to the French at Newfoundland, which were of the greatest importance to them for carrying on the fishery there, and training seamen to the service. He then sailed home, having the homeward bound ships for England under his convoy, and arrived safe at Portsmouth on the 10th day of November, in the same year.

The endeavours of the brave Admiral Benbow, however, were not crowned with the like success. He was detached with a squadron of ten sail by the Earl of Pembroke, in the latter end of the year 1701; and arrived at Barbadoes on the 3d of November, and proceeded from thence to Jamaica: he found the apprehensions of an approaching war very general among the islands: he found in Port-Royal harbour, two men of war; one a fifth and the other a sixth rate. Here he was informed that the Spanish flota were at Vera Cruz; and that a French fleet, consisting of sixteen men of war, lay at the Havannah, ready to convoy them to Europe. Towards the latter end of January, Brigadier-general Selwyn arrived at his government of Jamaica, and brought with him a fourth, fifth, and sixth, rate man of war, by whom advice was received, that a French squadron of superior force had arrived at Martinico. It was soon after reported, that the French fleet

fleet at Martinico had joined that at the Havannah, which united force being conſiderably ſuperior to any which the Engliſh poſſeſſed in thoſe parts, greatly alarmed all the iſlands. In February news was brought that the French fleet, conſiſting of forty ſail, with three flags, had been ſeen off Porto-Rico to the ſouth-weſt. Soon after more certain intelligence was obtained, by means of a ſloop ſent out for that purpoſe, that the French commander in chief lay in the gulph of Lagone, in Hiſpaniola, with thirty ſhips of war, having ſent ten of his largeſt ſhips to Europe. In the middle of May, Rear-admiral Whetſtone arrived from England with a reinforcement. Benbow continued at Jamaica, watching the motions of the French fleet, and ſending out detachments to pick up prizes, and to gain intelligence, until the 11th day of July, when he ſailed, with ſix men of war, to join Rear-admiral Whetſtone, who had been ſent out with a like force to intercept M. Du Caſs, who he had received intelligence had been ſent from Carthagena, with four men of war, to port Louis, at the weſt-end of Hiſpaniola, to ſettle the aſſiento, and to deſtroy the trade of the Engliſh and Dutch for negroes: in his way thither he fell in with a French man of war, pierced for fifty guns, and mounting thirty, which he forced on ſhore; and her captain, to prevent her falling into the hands of the Engliſh, ſet her on fire.

The admiral, on the 19th of Auguſt, in the evening, diſcovered ten ſail of ſhips on the coaſt of Santa Martha, upon the continent of South-America. Standing towards them, he ſoon found the greateſt part were French ſhips of war; whereupon, making the uſual ſignal for a line of battle, he went away with an eaſy ſail, that his ſternmoſt ſhips might come up and join him, the French ſteering weſtward along the ſhore, under their top-ſails. Their ſquadron conſiſted of four ſhips, from ſixty to ſeventy guns, with one great Dutch-built ſhip of about thirty or forty; and there

there was another full of ſoldiers, the reſt ſmall ones, and a ſloop. Our frigates aſtern were a long while coming up; and, the night advancing, the admiral ſteered along ſide of the French; but, though he endeavoured to get near them, yet he intended not to make any attack until the Defiance was got a-breaſt of the headmoſt. Before he could reach that ſtation, the Falmouth, which was in the rear, attempted the Dutch ſhip, the Windſor the ſhip a-breaſt of her, as did alſo the Defiance; and ſoon after the rear-admiral himſelf was engaged, having firſt received the fire of the ſhip which was oppoſite to him; but the Defiance and Windſor ſtood no more than two or three broad-ſides before they tacked to windward out of gun-ſhot, inſomuch that the two ſternmoſt ſhips of the enemy lay upon the admiral, and galled him very much; nor did the ſhips in the rear come up to his aſſiſtance with that diligence which might have been expected. From four o'clock until night the fight continued; and, though they then left off firing, yet the admiral kept them company; and, being of opinion, that it might be better for the ſervice if he had a new line of battle, and led himſelf on all tacks, he did ſo.---On the 20th, at day-break, he found himſelf very near the enemy, with only the Ruby to aſſiſt him; the reſt of the ſhips lying three, four, or five, miles aſtern. They had but little wind; and, though the admiral was within gun ſhot of the French, yet they were ſo civil as not to fire. About two in the afternoon the ſea-breeze began to blow, and then the enemy got into a line, making what ſail they could; and, the reſt of the ſhips not coming up, the admiral and the Ruby plied them with chace-guns, and kept them company all night.--On the 21ſt, the admiral was on the quarter of the ſecond ſhip of the enemy's line, within point-blank ſhot; but, the Ruby being a-head of the ſame ſhip, ſhe fired at her, as the other ſhip did likewiſe that was a-head of the admiral. The Breda engaged the ſhip

that firſt attacked the Ruby, and plied her ſo warmly, that ſhe was forced to tow off. The admiral would have followed her, but the Ruby was in ſuch a condition that he could not leave her. During this engagement, the rear ſhip of the enemy was a-breaſt of the Defiance and Windſor; but neither of thoſe ſhips fired a ſingle ſhot.---On the 22d, at day-break, the Greenwich was five leagues aſtern, though the ſignal for battle was never taken down: about three in the afternoon the wind, which was before eaſterly, changed to the ſouth-weſt, which gave the enemy the weather-gage.---On the 23d, the enemy was ſix leagues a-head, and the great Dutch ſhip ſeparated from them. At ten the enemy tacked, with the wind at eaſt-north-eaſt; the vice-admiral fetched within point-blank ſhot of two of them, and each gave the other his broad-ſide. The Ruby being diſabled, the admiral ſent her to Jamaica to refit. The reſt of the ſquadron now came up, and, the enemy being but two miles off, the brave admiral was yet in hopes of doing ſome effectual ſervice, and therefore continued to ſteer after them; but his ſhips, except the Falmouth, were ſoon a-ſtern again. At twelve the French began to ſeparate.---On the 24th, about two in the morning, they came up within call of the ſternmoſt, there being then very little wind. The admiral fired a broadſide, which the French ſhip returned. At three o'clock the admiral's right leg was broken by a chain-ſhot. The ſkirmiſh continued until day appeared, when a French ſhip of about ſeventy guns, was ſeen, with her main-yard down and ſhot to pieces, her fore-topſail-yard ſhot away, her mizen-maſt ſhot by the board, all her rigging gone, and her ſides much torn. The admiral ſoon after diſcovered the enemy ſtanding towards him with a ſtrong gale of wind. The Windſor, Pendennis, and Greenwich, ſtood a-head of the enemy, and bore to leeward of the diſabled ſhip, firing their broadſides as they paſſed her, and ſtood to the ſouthward: the

Defiance

Defiance followed them, fired part of her broadside, when, the disabled ship returning about twenty guns, the Defiance put her helm a-weather, and ran away right before the wind, lowered both her top-sails, and ran to the leeward of the Falmouth, without any regard to the signal of battle. It was upon full evidence of this fact, that Captain Kirby was condemned for cowardice, though, on other occasions, he had behaved well. It was generally supposed, that he was the author of this scheme; at least he was charged with being so, by Wade and Constable.

The enemy, seeing these three ships stand to the southward, expected they would have tacked and stood towards them, and therefore they brought to, with their heads to the northward. But, when they saw those ships did not tack, they immediately bore down upon the flag-ship, and, running between him and their disabled ship, poured in all their shot, by which they brought down his main-topsail-yard, and shattered his rigging very much, none of the other ships being near him, or taking the least notice of his signals, though Captain Fogg ordered two guns to be fired at the ships a-head, in order to remind them of their duty. The French, seeing things in this confusion, brought to, and lay by their own disabled ship, re-manned her, and took her in tow. When the Breda's rigging was repaired, the admiral, who had caused himself to be brought upon deck in his cradle, ordered his captain to pursue the enemy, then about three miles to leeward, his line of battle signal still displayed; and orders were sent to the several captains for them to keep the line, and behave like men. Upon this Captain Kirby came on-board the admiral, and told him "that he had better desist; that the French were very strong; and that, from what was past, he might guess he could make nothing of it." In this advice all the other captains concurred, although the ships were in as good condition as could be expected, and not above

eight men killed, except in the vice-admiral's own ſhip, nor was there any want of ammunition; whereas the enemy had now no more than four ſhips, from ſixty to ſeventy guns, and one of them diſabled and in tow. The vice-admiral thought proper upon this to return to Jamaica, where he arrived with his ſquadron very weak with a fever, brought on by the loſs of his leg, and the agitation of his mind. Here he was ſoon after joined by Whetſtone, with the ſhips under his command.

The French ſhips that were with M. Du Caſſe had ſailed from Corunna, having on-board the Duke of Albuquerque, viceroy of Mexico, and a conſiderable number of ſoldiers. Theſe were ſome of thoſe ſhips which eluded Sir John Munden's fleet, and got into port. The French accounts, indeed, repreſent the affair to their own advantage, as is their practice on all occaſions; but M. Du Caſſe, who was a brave man, and certainly the beſt judge of the tranſaction, appears to have been of another opinion, by the following ſhort letter, which he wrote immediately after his arrival at Carthagena; the original of which is preſerved in Admiral Benbow's family:---"Sir, I had little hopes, on Monday laſt but to have ſupped in your cabin: but it pleaſed God to order it otherwiſe; I am thankful for it. As for thoſe cowardly captains who deſerted you, hang them up; for by ----- they deſerve it. Du Casse." Benbow ſoon after iſſued a commiſſion to Whetſtone, and to ſeveral captains, to hold a court-martial for the trial of ſeveral offenders.---On the 6th of October, 1702, the court ſat at Port-Royal, when Captain Kirby, of the Defiance, was brought upon his trial. He was accuſed of cowardice, breach of orders, and neglect of duty; which crimes were proved upon oath, by the admiral himſelf, ten commiſſion, and eleven warrant, officers; by whoſe evidence it appeared, that the admiral boarded Du Caſſe in perſon three times, and received a large wound

in his face, and another in his arm, before his leg was ſhot off: that Kirby, after two or three broadſides, kept always out of gun-ſhot, and by his behaviour created ſuch a fear of deſertion as greatly diſcouraged the Engliſh in the engagement: that he kept two or three miles a-ſtern all the ſecond day, though repeatedly commanded to keep his ſtation: that the third day he did not fire a gun, though he ſaw the admiral in the utmoſt peril, being engaged with three French ſhips at once, and unſupported. It was depoſed, that Kirby threatened to kill his boatſwain for repeating the admiral's command to fire. No ſolid defence was ſet up to invalidate theſe heavy charges, therefore the court adjudged him to be ſhot. The ſame day Captain Conſtable, of the Windſor, was tried; his own officers vindicated him from cowardice, but the reſt of the charge being clearly proved, he was ſentenced to be caſhiered, and to be impriſoned during her majeſty's pleaſure. The next day Captain Wade was tried; and the charge being fully proved by ſixteen commiſſion and warrant-officers on-board his own ſhip, as alſo that he was drunk during the whole time of the engagement, he, making little or no defence, had the ſame ſentence with Kirby. As for Captain Hudſon, who commanded the Pendennis, he died a few days before his trial ſhould have come on, and thereby eſcaped the fate of Kirby and Wade.

On the 12th came on the trials of Captain Vincent, of the Falmouth, and Fogg, who was captain of the admiral's own ſhip the Breda, for ſigning, at the perſuaſion of Kirby, a paper, containing an obligation on themſelves not to fight the French. The fact was clear, and the captains themſelves did not diſpute it: all they offered in extenuation of their offence was, that they were apprehenſive Kirby would have deſerted to the enemy, and they took this ſtep to prevent it. But this tale would have hardly paſſed upon the court-martial, if the admiral himſelf had not given

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ſome weight to their excuſes, by declaring, that, however they might be overſeen in ſubſcribing that paper, yet they certainly behaved themſelves very gallantly in the fight. For the ſake of diſcipline, the court, however, thought fit to ſuſpend them until his royal highneſs's pleaſure ſhould be known. The two captains, who had received ſentence of death were ſent to England in the Briſtol man of war, to have the ſentence confirmed by her majeſty. The firſt port they arrived at was Plymouth, where a warrant already lay for their immediate execution. They were therefore ſhot on-board the ſhip, without being permitted to go aſhore.

The vice-admiral took this miſcarriage ſo much to heart, that he became melancholy; and his grief, co-operating with the fever occaſioned by his wounds, put a period to his life.

Marlborough, at his return to London after this campaign, received all the honours that could be conferred, either by a monarchy or republic; he was created a duke by the queen, and, which was ſtill more grateful, received the thanks of both houſes of parliament, who ſent a deputation of their number to wait upon him, at his houſe, for that purpoſe.

The continuance of the parliament, which ſat at the time of king's death, was limited to ſix months after that event. The queen, however, diſſolved it before that time, and iſſued writs for calling a new one. This new parliament was chiefly compoſed of Tory members: it met on the 20th day of October, 1702, and choſe Mr. Harley for their ſpeaker. In the courſe of this ſeſſion 3,517,957l. 7s. 2d. were voted for the ſervice of the enſuing year, which, at that time, was conſidered as an immenſe ſum, though, in after-times, much larger have been granted on the bare probability of a war. It was reſolved, that forty thouſand ſeamen ſhould be employed, and the like number of land-forces. Soon after, the queen informed the parliament,

ment, that she was pressed by the allies to augment her forces; and upon this it was resolved that ten thousand more men should be added to the continental army, but on condition that the Dutch should immediately break off all commerce with France and Spain; a condition which was very readily complied with.

In the beginning of April, 1703, the Duke of Marlborough crossed the sea, and, assembling the allied army, opened the campaign with the siege of Bonn, the residence of the Elector of Cologne. It was invested on the 24th of April with the horse, and the next day the duke and General Fagel arrived with the foot. They formed three attacks; the celebrated General Cohorn, who was to have the direction of the siege, arrived there with the bridges and a great number of vessels laden with ammunition. The Duke of Marlborough disposed of the troops in their quarters, and settled the three attacks. General Cohorn commanded the first against the fort on the other side of the Rhine, having with him the Major Generals Friesheim and Elberfeld, and M. de la Rocque, chief engineer; the second attack was commanded by the hereditary prince of Hesse Cassel, having under his command the Prince of Anhalt Serbst major-general, and Major-general Tetteau, and M. Hazard chief engineer; the third by General Fagel, with the Major-general de Dam and St. Paul, and Colonel Reinchard for his chief engineer. Twelve regiments were assigned to each attack; and on the 27th they were posted within reach. The siege lasted till the 15th of May, when Bonn surrendered to the allies. The Duke having granted them an honourable capitulation, left Bonn on the 17th, and arrived on the 19th in the morning at the camp of Maestricht, in which lay the army of the allies, commanded by Field-marshal d'Auverquerque. He was joined within a few days by the troops who had been employed in the siege of Bonn; and in a short time after by the rest of the army. The

army

army of France, commanded by the Marſhals Villeroy and Boufflers, and conſiſting of fifty-four battalions and a hundred and three ſquadrons, lay encamped near Tongres. The two armies made ſeveral motions: the generals on each ſide taking the utmoſt pains to penetrate the deſigns of the enemy. Thoſe of the Duke of Marlborough were to enter into Brabant. We ſhall not ſtay to give an account of all the marches made by the two armies to the 22d of June, that the M. Villeroy took his meaſures on one ſide to avoid the coming to a general engagement, and on the other to hinder the Duke of Marlborough from putting his project in execution, which drew on the action at Ekeren, after we had forced the enemies lines in the country of Waes. General Cohorn, General Fagel, and Count Tilly, were ordered to attack theſe lines: the firſt of theſe officers began on one ſide, while the Baron de Sparre attacked them on the other; although the firſt had but a very ſmall body of men, yet he met with very little reſiſtance at the poſt he attacked; as for Baron Sparre, having ſeven battalions to deal with, it coſt him more trouble; he forced them however at laſt, and entered the lines on that ſide, ſo that the French were obliged to abandon them. This action happened near Steck on the 27th of June.

The duke's deſign, after the forcing of theſe lines, was to have made himſelf maſter of Antwerp, which was poſſeſſed by ſome Spaniſh troops, under the command of the M. de Bedmar. The two French generals were of opinion, that in order to defeat this project, they ſhould attack the body of troops under the command of the Baron d'Obdam, (who were encamped, to the number of fifteen thouſand, between Ekeren and Capel, near Antwerp,) and if it were poſſible to cut off his retreat, and ſo prevent any communication between the different bodies of the allied troops. This brought on the battle of Ekeren: the engagement was very briſk in ſeveral places, laſting from

from three in the afternoon until night; its ſucceſs was often doubtful, till at laſt, by the indefatigable valour of the Dutch troops, one of the principal poſts neceſſary to our communication, that is the village of Oteren, was taken and kept. The horſe commanded by Major-general Hompeſch, who, according to the teſtimonies of the generals in chief, ſignalized himſelf in an extraordinary manner in this action, not only remained firm, though expoſed for three hours together to the fire of the enemy, which was very great, but at laſt obliged them to retire. Lieutenant-general Fagel was wounded in the head and in the foot, but not dangerouſly. Colonel Palland, who commanded the regiment of M. D'Obdam, and Colonel Banditz who had a regiment of Holſtein dragoons, were wounded, Colonel Kranemburg was killed on the ſpot. The French, who about the beginning of the action had taken four pieces of our cannon, were in the end obliged to abandon them, while we on the other hand made ourſelves maſters of one of their pieces of cannon, ſome of their ammunition, ſeveral pair of kettle-drums, two ſtandards, and ſeveral colours. In this action the Dutch had 1707 men killed, 1003 wounded, and 694 made priſoners. The French, on the other hand, acknowledged ſixteen hundred men killed and wounded; among whom were one hundred and fifty officers. The army of the allies continued all night under arms on the field of battle, and the next morning marched from Oteren to Lillo, without the enemy's attempting to give them the leaſt diſturbance.

About this time ſome jealouſy broke out between the Duke of Marlborough and the two Dutch generals, Obdam and Schlangenberg; and, as the Dutch could not at this time diſoblige the duke, thoſe two excellent officers were deprived of their commands ſoon after.

Huy, which is a conſiderable town in the biſhopric of Liege, ſeated on the Maeſe, fourteen miles ſouth of

Liege, and seventeen north-east of Namur, had been invested on the 16th of August by Count Noyelles; the forts were taken on the 23d, and the enemy retiring into the castle the batteries were removed, and the cannon brought to play thereupon; on the 25th, the dispositions for an assault being made, the governor caused the chamade to beat, and demanded that the garrison should have leave to march to Namur with the usual marks of honour. This the Duke of Marlborough refused, but offered at the same time, that, if they would lay down their arms, all that belonged to the officers and soldiers should be left them, and they should be exchanged for a like number of our men whenever the M. de Villeroy should desire it. These terms the governor refused; but, the soldiers absolutely persisting in their resolution to surrender, he was obliged to accept them; and so the garrison, consisting of nine hundred men, were made prisoners of war, and the castle, with all the ammunition and provisions therein, put into the hands of the allies on the 29th of August.

On the 10th of September, Limburg was invested by Lieutenant-general Bulau with twenty-four squadrons of horse and dragoons; this city, which is the capital of a duchy, is situate on a rock among shady woods on the river Wesdret, about sixteen miles south-east of Aix la Chapelle. The officer who commanded in that place (which had been dismantled at the peace) had orders to abandon it at the approach of the allies, after blowing up the castle. But he, being surprised, was obliged to make some defence. On the 12th the Duke of Marlborough, with the Hereditary Prince of Hesse Cassel, marched with fifteen squadrons and twenty-four battalions to the camp before Limburg, where they arrived two days after. On the 27th the breach was so wide that the confederates prepared for a general assault, which the French prevented by

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a capitulation, whereby the garriſon conſiſting of ſeven hundred men were made priſoners of war.

During the time this ſiege continued, the troops of Pruſſia bombarded Guelders with twenty-nine mortars, and at the ſame time cannonaded it with forty pieces of cannon: by the 8th of October the place was in ſo bad a condition, that M. de Bethis who commanded therein deſired to capitulate, but they could not agree on the conditions. Hoſtilities, therefore, were recommenced on the 10th, and the blockade continued to the 17th of December, when M. de Bethis was obliged to capitulate. The Count de Lottum, who commanded the blockade, allowed him two pieces of cannon, and all other marks of honour, with the carriages neceſſary to convey their baggage to Louvain and Mechlin, whither the garriſon was eſcorted. The ſurrender of this place ſecured to the allies the poſſeſſion of the whole Spaniſh Guelderland, which was certainly a conſiderable acquiſition; but, as to the place itſelf, it had been ſo effectually ruined by the bombardment, that it was very little better than a heap of ſtones.

After all theſe advantages, the allies, quitted their old camp, on the 12th of October, and fixed themſelves at Bilſen near Tongres; the army of France retired behind its lines. M. Villeroy began to ſend a part of the troops into winter quarters, and on the 1ſt of November the army of the allies ſeparated alſo. And thus ended the campaign of 1703 in the Netherlands, the allies remaining the maſters of all Spaniſh Guelderland, and having ſecured the country of Liege and the electorate of Cologne from the deſigns of the enemy. This campaign would probably have been followed by more important conſequences, if the Duke of Marlborough had not been reſtricted by the deputies of the ſtates-general, who began to be influenced by the intrigues of the Louveſtein party, which, having formerly oppoſed a ſtadtholder, were now equally averſe

to the appointment of a ſingle dictator, in the perſon of the Duke of Marlborough.

Prince Eugene was recalled out of Italy this year, becauſe the conduct of the Elector of Bavaria rendered it probable that the ſtreſs of the war would lie in the empire itſelf; and the emperor, having occaſion for a general who might be able to fruſtrate theſe attempts, made choice of Prince Eugene. His ſerene highneſs arrived at Vienna the 8th of January, and was received by the Emperor Leopold with all the marks of eſteem which his great ſervices deſerved. Count Mansfeldt, at that time preſident of the council of war, having deſired leave to reſign, his Imperial majeſty conferred that office on Prince Eugene. His highneſs applied himſelf indefatigably to the putting the finances in order, and providing every thing neceſſary for the ſupport of the armies in Germany, Hungary and Italy.

After the departure of Prince Eugene, the court of France formed a project of employing three ſeparate armies in Italy; one was to be commanded by the Duke de Vendome, another by the grand prior his brother, and the third by the Prince de Vaudemont. Theſe three bodies were to encloſe the Imperialiſts on all ſides, who were but a handful of men in compariſon of their enemies, and to force their poſts. General Staremberg, who commanded the Imperialiſts in Italy, encamped his troops on the banks of the Secchia, with a reſolution to wait there the Duke of Vendome's paſſing the river and attacking him. That he might be the leſs incumbered in caſe of an engagemnt, he ſent the heavy baggage and equipage into the Ferrareſe. Such was the diſpoſition of the armies at the beginning of the campaign. However there was nothing done therein by the French anſwerable in any degree to the preparations they had made. The ſiege of Bercello took them up a long time; and the Imperialiſts not only kept their poſts, but rendered alſo abortive the attempt upon Oſtiglia, beat General Albergotti near Mirandola,

Mirandola, and even made inroads into the adjoining country. M. de Vendome was not more happy in his expedition into the Trentine, than in his other enterprises; he was obliged to retire after having bombarded for four days, to no purpose, the city of Trent, and losing before it a considerable number of men. All the consolation he had was to make himself some amends by plundering the country in his retreat.

Though Prince Eugene was not in Italy, yet he did the King of France the greatest mischief, and gave him the most sensible mortification, by the rupture of the Duke of Savoy, who, by his highness's management, deserted about this time the interests of France and Spain, and concluded a treaty with the emperor. Peter II. King of Portugal, also joined the grand alliance. Marshal de Villars, the favourite hero of Louis XIV. commanded this year in Germany. He passed the Rhine, reduced fort Kehl; then, joining his troops with those of Bavaria, he took Brisac, and obtained a decisive victory over Prince Louis of Baden. However, though the French were generally successful on the Rhine, yet several of the generals of the allies gained great glory by their gallant behaviour on that side. Count Stirum and General Schlick made an inroad into Bavaria, where the first forced the lines of Diffort, and the other surprised the little town of Rieth, and both did wonders in the fight at Scharding, and at the first battle of Hochstet. The hereditary Prince of Hesse, afterwards King of Sweden, sustained, with great bravery, the attack of the Marshal Tallard, near Spire; and, if he was obliged to retire, it was because the greatest valour cannot make head against a superior force. The Count de Thungen, who commanded the army of the empire, defeated all the designs of the enemy, as far as it was possible for a general to do who was in every thing. The Prince of Baden distinguished himself on the Rhine and on the Danube. Count d'Arco defended himself three weeks

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in Briſac, and the Count de Frieze more than a month in Landau, which he did not ſurrender till after the advantage the enemy gained in the battle of Spire.

Nothing very remarkable happened at ſea during the ſummer of the year 1703. Sir George Rooke cruiſed in the channel in order to alarm the coaſt of France, and protect the trade of England. The grand fleet was commanded by Sir Cloudeſley Shovel: it conſiſted of twenty-ſeven ſhips of the line; and, under him, were Rear-admiral Byng and Sir Stafford Fairborne: this force was afterwards augmented by eight ſhips, which were commanded by Vice-admiral Leake. It was not until the middle of June, that the Dutch fleet joined, which amounted to no more than twelve ſhips, carrying three flags.

On the 1ſt of July the combined fleet ſailed from St. Helen's, and proceeded to the Mediterranean, whither they eſcorted the Turkey fleet, and accompanied it to the coaſt of Italy. The fleet then put into Leghorn to procure water. On the 22d of September the admiral appeared before Altea, on the coaſt of the province of Valentia, where Brigadier Seymour landed, and encamped with 2500 marines. The admiral publiſhed a ſhort manifeſto, ſignifying, that he was not come to diſturb, but to protect, the good ſubjects of Spain, who ſhould ſwear allegiance to their lawful monarch the Archduke Charles, and endeavour to ſhake off the yoke of France: but this declaration produced little or no effect. One deſign of this armament was to aſſiſt the Cevennois, inhabitants of the province of Languedoc, who, being proteſtants, had been perſecuted into a revolt, and implored the aſſiſtance of the maritime powers. The admiral detached two of his ſhips, the Tartar and the Pembroke, into the gulph of Narbonne, with ſome refugees and French pilots, who had concerted ſignals with the Cevennois; but the Marſhal de Montreville, who commanded the French troops employed to reduce them, had

had so effectually occupied the passes that led to their mountainous recesses from the sea-coast, that no assistance could be rendered them; and the English captains having repeated their signals to no purpose, rejoined their admiral. Whilst the admiral lay at Leghorn, he detached Captain Swanton to Tunis and Tripoli, and sent Rear-admiral Byng to Algiers, to renew the peace with those piratical states, and then returned to England. On the 16th day of November, the fleet being off the Isle of Wight, Captain Norris, (afterwards Sir John Norris,) in the Orford, a ship of the third rate, together with the Warspight of seventy guns, and the Litchfield of fifty, being a-head of the fleet, gave chase to a French ship of war, and, beginning to engage about eight o'clock at night, the firing continued till two in the morning, when the Frenchman struck. She was homeward bound from Newfoundland, was larger than an English sixty-gun ship, but mounted only fifty guns, and had on board 370 men; she was called the Hazardous, and was commanded by M. de la Rue.

While the grand fleet rode in the Mediterranean, the admiralty-council received intelligence, that a considerable fleet of French merchant-ships, with their convoy, were in Cancalle Bay, near St. Maloes; orders were therefore sent to Rear-admiral Dilkes, who was then at Spithead with a small squadron, to sail immediately in pursuit of them, which he did on the 22d of July. On the 24th he ordered the captain of the Nonsuch to stretch a-head of the squadron, and stand as near Alderney as possible, and send his boat ashore to gain intelligence. On the 25th he stood towards the Casquets for the same purpose, and at six in the evening anchored off the south-west part of Jersey; from whence he sent Captain Chamberlain, commander of the Spy brigantine, to the governor, in order to procure the best intelligence. The governor sent to him Captains Lamprier and Pipon, who well understood

ſtood that coaſt, by whom being informed of a fleet about forty ſail, plying to the windward, on the 15th, to get to Granville, the rear-admiral, upon conſultation, at a council of war, with the pilots, reſolved to ſail immediately, though the tide fell croſs in the night, that, getting clear of the weſtermoſt rocks of the Minques, he might attack the enemy, by break of day, the next morning; accordingly, perceiving the enemy at anchor about a league to the weſtward of Granville, at break of day they, upon his approach, got under ſail, and ſtood in for the ſhore. The rear-admiral followed them as far as the pilot would venture, and found them to conſiſt of forty-three merchant-ſhips, and three men of war. Being come within four feet water more than the ſhip drew, he manned all the boats of his fleet. By noon he took fifteen ſail, burnt ſix, and ſunk three; the reſt ſtood ſo far into a bay, between Avranche and the mount St. Michael, that the pilots thought it raſh to attack them; whereupon, on the 27th in the morning, it was reſolved, at a council of war, to go into the bay with the Hector, Mermaid, a fire-ſhip, the Spy brigantine, a ſhip of ſix guns, taken the day before from the enemy, a ketch fitted as a fire-ſhip, and all the boats of the ſquadron, which was performed between ten and eleven in the morning. There were three ſhips equipped for war; one of eighteen guns, which the enemy burnt; the ſecond of fourteen guns, which Mr. Paul, firſt lieutenant of the Kent, ſet on fire, who in this ſervice was ſhot through the lower jaw, and had four men killed; and a third of eight guns, which was brought off. Seventeen more of the merchant-ſhips were burnt and deſtroyed, ſo that, of the whole fleet, only four eſcaped, by getting under the command of Granville fort. The enemy, during this attack, ſent ſeveral large ſhallops from Granville, but with no ſucceſs, the rear-admiral having manned a brigantine with eighty men, and another veſſel, of ſix guns, with forty, who covered

covered all the boats. This laſt veſſel unfortunately ran aground, which obliged the rear-admiral to burn her. During the time of this action, about five thouſand of the enemy appeared on-ſhore, but they remained quiet ſpectators of the devaſtation committed on the French ſhips, for they made no advances to attack the Engliſh. For this ſignal ſervice the queen ordered gold medals to be ſtruck, and preſented to Dilkes and all his officers.

In the Weſt Indies no advantages were gained during the year 1703. Sir George Rooke, in the preceding year, had detached, from the Mediterranean, Captain Hovenden Walker, with ſix third-rate men of war and tranſports, having on-board four regiments of ſoldiers, for the Leeward Iſlands. Being joined at Antigua by ſome troops under Colonel Coddrington, they made a deſcent upon the iſland of Guadaloupe, where they razed the fort, burnt the town, ravaged the country, and then re-embarked with precipitation, in conſequence of a report, that the French had landed nine hundred men on the back of the iſland.

When the news of Benbow's death reached England, Vice-admiral Graydon was ſent out with three ſhips of the line, to take the command of the fleet in that ſtation; a fifty and a ſixty gun ſhip were ordered to accompany the admiral one hundred and fifty leagues beyond Cape Clear; whilſt they were purſuing this courſe, they deſcried four French men-of-war to leeward. The admiral threw out the ſignal for a line of battle, but the French ſhips, although foul, (for they were part of M. du Caſſe's ſquadron, which Admiral Benbow had engaged,) outſailed the Engliſh, and eſcaped. Graydon kept on his track, without crowding ſail to overtake the enemy; and on the 12th day of May arrived at Barbadoes, where he was informed of the diſtreſſed ſituation of the fleet and troops that had quitted Guadaloupe, and were then at Nevis. Having collected all the ſupplies that the iſland could furniſh,

he ſailed to their relief, which having very ſeaſonably effected, he proceeded to Jamaica, and arrived there on the 4th day of June. There he quarrelled with the principal planters of the iſland; and his ſhips beginning to be crazy, and their maſts, ſtores, and rigging, very defective, and the whole fleet ill-manned, reſolved to return to England. Accordingly, having left ſome ſhips to protect that iſland, he proceeded with the reſt through the gulph of Florida, deſigning to attack the French at Placentia, in Newfoundland. He fell in with the coaſt on the 2d day of Auguſt, in the evening of which day ſo intenſe a fog aroſe, that the like had ſcarcely ever been known even there, where fogs prevail more than in any other part of the known world: it continued during thirty days, and cauſed the fleet to be ſo diſperſed, that it could not be aſſembled again until the 3d day of September; when the vice-admiral called a council of war, to deliberate on the expediency of attempting to reduce Placentia, and thereby entirely diſpoſſeſs the French of Newfoundland. It appeared, that the ſhips were in a bad condition, thinly manned, their crews ſickly, a ſcarcity of proviſions, and the men already at ſhort allowance; the ſoldiers rendered unfit for ſervice, by the ſeverity of the climate, which had reduced five regiments to one thouſand and thirty-five men; and farther, the reinforcement which was expected from New England had failed: whilſt, on the other hand, the French at Placentia were ſuppoſed to exceed in number thoſe that were to attack them; beſides which, the approaches were to be carried on with great diſadvantage of ground; this ſtate of affairs led the council unanimouſly to reſolve, that to make an attempt on that place, with their ſhipping and force, at that advanced ſeaſon, was highly unwarrantable, as, inſtead of any probability of ſucceſs preſenting itſelf, it was likely to iſſue in the diſhonour of her majeſty's arms. Hereupon Graydon returned

returned to England, without having procured any advantages to his country, or any glory to himself.

Among the occurrences of this year we have to speak of a calamity of a very uncommon kind. In the night of the 26th of November, the most violent tempest ever known in England suddenly arose. The wind blowing from the south-west, with incredible force and noise, was accompanied with flashes of lightning, and peals of thunder, which threw the southern part of the kingdom, where its fury was chiefly felt, into consternation: it continued from about eleven o'clock at night to seven the next morning. The houses in London shook from their foundations. Many of them fell, and buried the inhabitants in their ruins; and those which escaped were stripped of their tiles. The water overflowed several streets, and rose to a considerable height in Westminster-hall: London-bridge was almost choaked up with the wrecks of vessels that perished in the river. The loss sustained by the capital was computed at a million sterling; and the city of Bristol suffered to a prodigious amount: but the chief national damage fell upon the navy. Thirteen ships of war were lost, together with fifteen hundred seamen, including Rear-admiral Beaumont, who was then at anchor in the Downs, where his ships foundered. However, this loss was repaired with incredible diligence: for the queen immediately issued orders for building a greater number of ships than those which had been destroyed; and exercised her bounty for the relief of ship-wrecked seamen, and the widows of those who were drowned, in a manner that endeared her to all her subjects. The storm which proved so fatal to England, was felt with equal severity in Holland: the dykes having been broken down in Friezeland by the violence of the waves, one-fourth part of that province was laid under water; and a squadron of men of war, under Admiral Calemberg, was driven from the mouth of the Texel to the coast of Norway.

The parliament met, as usual, in November, and great unanimity prevailed. The necessary provision for maintaining the war by sea and land, during the next year, was cheerfully and liberally made. The treaties concluded since the recess, and the estimates of the army and navy, being laid before the house, they voted, that forty thousand men, including five thousand marines, should be employed for the sea-service of 1704; and that four pounds a man, each month, allowing thirteen for the year, should be granted for the maintenance of that force.

The important transactions which distinguished the summer of the year 1704 on the continent were conspicuous and decisive. Marlborough had, in the beginning of the year, visited Holland, and concerted the operations of the campaign with the States, after which he returned to England before the prorogation of parliament. When the season for action approached, he embarked at Harwich, to put the grand army of the allies in motion. The success of the two last campaigns having put the confederates in possession of the Maese and Spanish Guelderland, such a strong barrier was formed on the side of Flanders, that a small number of forces were thought sufficient to protect the States against all assaults. The duke was therefore left at liberty to lead the army into the heart of Germany, to retrieve the affairs of the emperor, whose situation had become desperate, through the progress made by the joint force of the French and Bavarians, which almost threatened his capital. Nor were these the only enemies which Leopold had to encounter. The Hungarians becoming discontented with the government, Prince Ragotski headed the malcontents, who took up arms, and being supported by France and Turkey, became formidable to the state.

The states of Holland had given the duke full powers to march as he thought proper, with assurances of their assistance in all his endeavours. The French king, finding Boufflers no longer capable of opposing

Marlborough, appointed the Marshal de Villeroy to command in his place. But Marlborough, who, like Hannibal of old, was remarkable for studying the dispositions of his antagonists, having no great fears from Villeroy, immediately flew to the assistance of the emperor. Yet he took his measures so secretly, that Villeroy, who at first attempted to follow his motions, seemed all at once to have lost sight of the enemy; nor was he apprised of his route till informed of his successes.

The Duke of Marlborough thus traversed extensive countries by hasty marches, and was joined by Prince Eugene, at the head of the Imperialists. On the 28th of June, his camp was formed within two leagues of the Elector of Bavaria's army. The troops of the allies consisted of ninety-six battalions of foot, and two hundred and two squadrons of horse and dragoons, provided with forty-four pieces of field cannon, four howitzers, and twenty-four pontoons. The force of the enemy was inferior in point of numbers, consisting only of eighty-eight battalions of foot, and one hundred and sixty squadrons of horse; but they had ninety pieces of cannon, forty mortars and howitzers, and thirty pontoons. It was resolved, in a council of war, to attack the Elector of Bavaria's lines, which were drawn near the strong town of Donawert, on the Danube. Marlborough, at the head of three English battalions, led to the attack; the contest continued two hours; at length the English forced their way, and drove their enemies before them. The loss on each side, in this desperate action, was considerable, and very equal; five hundred English being slain, and as many of the Bavarians and French. The duke, by this event, obtained many important advantages: he became master of the banks of the Danube, and of the bridge across that river, by which means he cut off the communication between the troops of the enemy, which were stationed on the Upper and Lower Danube; and the Electorate of Bavaria became exposed

to the ravages of the victors. Soon after Marshal Tallard, at the head of three thousand French troops, joined the elector, and stopped the farther progress of the confederates.

The French army, including Bavarians, now consisted of near sixty thousand men; Marlborough was at the head of about fifty-two thousand troops, that had been accustomed to conquer, and had seen the French, the Turks, and the Russians, fly before them. Though the allies possessed the banks of the Danube, they were little able to draw sufficient supplies from their magazines, or to penetrate into Bavaria; so that they earnestly sought an opportunity of bringing on a general engagement, for which purpose they attentively watched every motion of the enemy. The evil destiny of France, the ignorance and haughtiness of her generals, the Marshals Tallard and Marsin, together with the vehemence of the elector himself, at length presented the wished-for opportunity. As this battle, called the battle of Blenheim, or Hockstet, both from the talents of the generals, the improvements in the art of war, the number and discipline of the troops, and the greatness of the contending powers, is reckoned the most remarkable of this century, it demands a particular detail.

On the 13th of August, at break of day, the whole army put itself in full march in eight columns, the Imperialists in the right, the English and Dutch in the left. A ninth column was soon after formed, consisting of two brigades which had been posted at Tiffingen, and fifteen squadrons which took the left of the whole. They continued their march in this order till they reached the village of Sweiningen, where they made a halt, and where the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene caused the general officers to repair to them, where they received the necessary orders. It was by this time six o'clock in the morning, and it did not appear that theenemy had any thoughts of a battle;

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for on ſight of the allies they fired two pieces of cannon to recal their foragers, beat the generale, then the aſſembly, and ran to their arms in a hurry. While they were forming at the head of their camp, the army of the allies were croſſing the plain, and having behind them the villages of Wolperſtelde, Schweinebach and Achberg, they ſtretched their left to the moraſs near Greinheim, and puſhed their right on the other ſide of the plain, as far as they were able to extend it. The right, compoſed of Imperial troops, either properly ſo called, or auxiliaries, had Prince Eugene at their head, and under him, as generals of the horſe, Prince Maximilian of Hanover, the Count de la Tour, and the Duke of Wirtemberg; and for general of the foot the Prince of Anhalt Deſſau. The Engliſh and Dutch formed the left wing under the command of the Duke of Marlborough, who had under him for generals the Hereditary Prince of Heſſe and General Churchill. He had alſo a ſmall corps of cavalry in reſerve; the whole conſiſting of no more than ſixty-ſeven battalions and a hundred and eighty-one ſquadrons.

The enemy were alſo drawn up in two lines on the bank of a river or rivulet, which ſeparated them from the allies, the right wing commanded by the Marſhal Tallard, and the left by the Elector of Bavaria and Marſhal Marſin. Their army conſiſted of eighty-four battalions, and a hundred and fifty ſquadrons; ſo that, according to the calculation of Lieutenant-general Count Hompeſch, they were ſuperior to the allies by 4220 men. But they would not have been ſo, if the whole army had been there, part of it being employed in the ſiege of Ingoldſtadt, under the command of Prince Lewis of Baden. It is true that the enemy had not there all their forces neither; the army on the Rhine commanded by the Marſhal Villeroy conſiſted of upwards of 16,000 men; 10,000 lay at Dutlingen under his proper command, and 6000 in the lines under the Count de Coigni. He had alſo ſent back

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into the Netherlands 8000 men under the command of the Marquis d'Alegre.

By eight o'clock in the morning the two armies fronted each other within cannon-shot, and separated only by the rivulet aforementioned. The French were possessed of four villages well fortified and full of men: Blenheim, situated at the extremity of the right upon the Danube; Lutzingen, at the extremity of their left towards the wood; Oberklau, in the very centre of their army; and Onderklau, on the other side of the rivulet, almost at an equal distance from the two first-mentioned places. Two mills standing on the same rivulet pretty near its mouth, defended the passage on that side, and served as redoubts to the village of Blenheim. The first thing that was to be done in order to remove these obstacles, was the throwing bridges over this rivulet. The English established five, and afterwards a sixth, notwithstanding the enemy's cannon, which fired continually, in order to hinder them. They fired with the same violence on their left, and the Imperialists suffered very much from ten o'clock, when their fire seemed to be redoubled, till twelve, when orders were given for a general attack.

At one o'clock the whole army advanced towards the enemy, and the attack was begun on the side of the English, with the two mills on the rivulet: this was performed by General Wilks at the head of two brigades, sustained by twenty battalions, under the command of Lord Cuts. They were soon carried, for the enemy did not think fit to garrison them; they even abandoned the village of Onderklau, after having set it on fire, and the English immediately lodged themselves therein.

These advantages favoured the passage of the left over the rivulet, but did not leave it entirely free. They were obliged to sustain a very long and brisk fire. The Danes, the English, and the Hanoverians, posted on the right of the left, having passed the rivulet at Onderklau,

Onderklau, were charged ſo warmly by the enemy, that they were forced to repaſs it again; they returned however, being ſupported by a good body of infantry, but were obliged a ſecond time to retreat. The third time they kept their ground, and the Prince of Holſteinbeck advanced as far as the village of Oberklau, in purſuit of the enemy, but his bravery had not the ſucceſs it deſerved. Eight or nine battalions environed and put to the ſword three or four Dutch regiments which he led, amongſt others that of Goor, of which there did not eſcape ſixty men; the prince himſelf received ſeveral wounds, and was taken priſoner, but they afterwards left him becauſe they could not carry him off.

The Imperialiſts found no leſs difficulty on the right than the Engliſh and Dutch on the left. The ground on that ſide being embarraſſed with brambles, hedges, and other incumbrances, there was no marching by columns, ſo they advanced as well as they could to the rivulet, and paſſed it, the foot on the right, and the cavalry on the left; the enemy not making the leaſt motion to oppoſe them. They were ranged in order of battle on the eminence whereon the village of Lutzingen is ſituated; they were ſtill poſſeſſed of that village, and had there a great battery which commanded all the country before it. There was a neceſſity of attacking them in this advantageous poſt. The infantry, compoſed of ſeven Daniſh battalions and eleven battalions of Pruſſians, marched to the fight with all the alacrity imaginable. The cavalry alſo charged with a great deal of vigour, but without ſucceſs; they were repulſed, and the Pruſſian battalions were thereby left uncovered, ſo that the enemy took them in flank, and put them into great diſorder, eſpecially the two battalions which were moſt expoſed. It was not however till after a long reſiſtance that they were entirely broke, which obliged the reſt to retire as well as they could towards the wood from whence they came, where they

endeavoured to form. The cavalry in the mean time rallied and returned to the charge, and made in their turn such an impression on the enemy's horse, that, if the infantry had been able to second them, the victory had not long been doubtful; but they were all in confusion, and it was above an hour before they could be put into order. By that time the cavalry were again repulsed, and all advantages were evidently on the side of the enemy. The presence of the Elector of Bavaria contributed very much to this, it being of the utmost importance to him to gain this battle, the loss of which he had reason to fear would be attended with the loss of his dignity, his dominions, and all that he had in the world. But the principal cause of the enemy's superiority on this occasion was their number: they had thirty battalions in their left, whereas the allies had but eighteen in their right. Their cavalry was also more numerous, and their situation extremely advantageous. Besides this, the village of Oberklau favoured them exceedingly. It was seated, as we said before, in the very centre of their army, and flanked equally their right and their left. If the French or Bavarian squadrons were at any time pushed, they found here an easy and secure retreat; but, if the Imperialists or English gave way in the least, they had immediately a shower of musquet-balls in their backs, for the infantry posted there acted as if they had been in ambuscade. It was of the utmost importance therefore to drive the enemy from that post, and we have already seen the English and Dutch attempt it in vain. In a second attack, when supported by a reserve of the Imperial cavalry, they succeeded better. They did not gain the post indeed, but they kept those within it besieged, so that their own troops could now march before it, and attack the cavalry of the enemy with greater liberty. They pushed them so briskly and so far, that in spight of a second rivulet called the Meulweyr, the village of Blenheim was entirely cut off from the enemy's

enemy's army. Upon this the Duke of Marlborough cauſed it to be inveſted and attacked on the one ſide by General Churchill, and on the other by Lord Cuts and Major-general Wilks.

In the mean time Prince Eugene made a third charge, more firm, and at the ſame time more briſk, than either of the former; the cavalry however were repulſed again, but the infantry met with leſs reſiſtance; the Bavarians gave way, and by little and little loſt ground, fighting ſtill as they retired; they loſt alſo their cannon, and were very near being ſurrounded in the village of Lutzingen.

The elector, now fearing the loſs of every thing, cauſed fire to be ſet to this village, and to that of Oberklau, and then retired with his troops; his infantry threw themſelves into a wood, and his cavalry retired by Monchelingen behind a third rivulet, the ſides of which were marſhy, and which paſſes from thence towards the Danube, into which it falls a little below Hochſtedt. The Imperialiſts, having rallied, followed them continually fighting and killing a great number in this retreat, but they were not able to break theſe troops, ſo that the elector ſaved his wing from that total deſtruction which threatened it, and which had already over-taken the forces on the right.

Fear and conſternation had now ſeized the French troops. On the right they were not only frighted, but grew incapable of direction; they no longer underſtood commands or obedience, they knew neither way nor road; they gave themſelves up for loſt, and ſuffered the Engliſh to drive them about like flocks of ſheep. An entire body of four thouſand cavalry, which had the higheſt reputation amongſt them, carried off Marſhal Tallard in their flight, and, without conſidering what they did, or wherefore, threw themſelves by whole ſquadrons into the Danube, horſes and men, officers as well as ſoldiers; ſome got over, but the far greater part were drowned; and the marſhal, finding

it impoſſible to ſtop this frantic reſolution, yielded himſelf priſoner with ſome other general officers who were about him. The other troops on the right were in like manner broken and routed by the Engliſh and Dutch, but they rallied behind the village of Monchelingen, and joined the Bavarians; thoſe who were moſt nimble ſaved themſelves, the others as they rallied formed into ſmall corps; amongſt others two brigades, compoſed of eight battalions, were left behind. Theſe, depending on the ſupport of the cavalry on their flanks, engaged the allies again, but their horſe abandoned them; they then made an effort to join the troops in the village of Blenheim, but they were charged in their paſſage, and almoſt all put to the ſword.

The allies were now maſters of the field, and ſurrounded the village of Blenheim, where a body of thirteen thouſand men had been poſted in the beginning of the action, and ſtill kept their ground. Theſe troops, ſeeing themſelves cut off from all communication with the reſt of the army, threw down their arms, and ſurrendered themſelves priſoners of war. This was one of the moſt complete victories that was ever obtained. Twelve thouſand French and Bavarians were ſlain in the field, or drowned in the Danube; thirteen thouſand were made priſoners of war. Of the allies about five thouſand were killed, and eight thouſand wounded or taken.

The loſs of the battle is imputed to two capital errors committed by Marſhal Tallard; firſt weakening the centre, by detaching ſuch a number of troops to the village of Blenheim, and then ſuffering the confederates to paſs the rivulet, and form unmoleſted. When the Duke of Marlborough, the next day, viſited his priſoner, the marſhal paid him the compliment of having overcome the beſt troops in the world. "I hope, ſir," replied the duke, "you will except thoſe by whom they were conquered." The Elector of Bavaria, and Marſhal Marſin, though not abſolutely routed,

routed, retired with every mark of a defeat, under the cover of night, to Ulm, where they continued only the next day; ſtill retreating, they directed their route through the Black Foreſt, and at length joined Marſhal Villeroi on the Rhine.

The conſequences which followed this memorable victory had all the importance which might have been expected from ſo deciſive a blow. The conqueſts and dominions of the Elector of Bavaria fell at once into the hands of the emperor, who retaliated ſeverely upon the ſubjects of that prince the exceſſes which had been committed on the Imperialiſts. A country, ſeventy leagues in extent, was expoſed to all the ravages and miſeries which incenſed conquerors were diſpoſed to commit. The French, ruined, broken, and diſperſed, left a free and uninterrupted march to the confederates, from the Danube to the Rhine. The remains of an army, which at the beginning of the campaign, ſpread terror even to the gates of Vienna, were now forced to take ſhelter within the kingdom of France.

While the rear of the army of the allies cleared Bavaria of the remains of the elector's forces, the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene followed the army of France in its retreat, leaving in the neighbourhood of Landau a body of troops under the command of Prince Louis of Baden, in order to reduce that important fortreſs. Laubanie commanded in this place, where he had twelve battalions and ſome troops of horſe. He made all the neceſſary diſpoſitions for a long and vigorous defence; and though he loſt his ſight on the 11th of October, by a bomb's breaking near him, which covered him with earth and ſtones, yet he held out the place upwards of ſixty days. The Prince of Baden inveſted it on the ninth of September; Prince Eugene drew near it on the twelfth with another part of the Imperial army, and the Duke of Marlborough covered the ſiege with the Engliſh and Dutch troops under his command. On the 22d the king of

the Romans (afterwards the Emperor Joſeph) arrived in the camp before the place, ſo that it was under his auſpices the ſiege was afterwards carried on, of which it would be needleſs to give a journal here, becauſe nothing very extraordinary happened. On the 25th of November the capitulation was ſigned, the garriſon being then reduced to between 1500 and 1800 men, who received however all the honours due to ſo brave a defence. During this important ſiege, the Duke of Marlborough made himſelf maſter of Treves; and ſent afterwards the Baron de Trogné to beſiege Traarbach, the caſtle of which made a ſtout defence, but was obliged in the end to ſubmit. It was the Hereditary Prince of Heſſe Caſſel who had the glory of this conqueſt, which was attended with great difficulty. Thus ended the campaign in Germany and Alſace.

In Flanders the campaign was ſpent inactively. Auverquerque, who commanded the allies on the frontiers of Holland, bombarded Namur, without effect, in the month of July. This was the only attempt which was made, both ſides acting on the defenſive.

The tranſactions at ſea this year (1704) were equally brilliant and ſucceſsful.---Charles, the archduke of Auſtria, being declared King of Spain by the emperor his father, and acknowledged as ſuch by the allies, Sir George Rooke was ſent to Holland, in order to eſcort him to Liſbon. The young prince, who was ſecond ſon to Leopold, ſet out from Vienna to Holland, and, at Duſſeldorp was viſited by the Duke of Marlborough, who, in the name of his miſtreſs, congratulated him upon his acceſſion to the crown of Spain. The new king received him with every mark of eſteem, and, taking his own ſword from his ſide, preſented it to the Engliſh general, ſaying; "Sir, I am not aſhamed to own myſelf a poor prince: I poſſeſs nothing but my cloak and my ſword: the latter may be of uſe to your grace; and I hope you will not think it the worſe for having been worn by me one day." "On the contrary,"

trary," replied the duke, "it will always put me in mind of your majesty's just right and title, and of the obligations I lie under to hazard my life in making you the greatest prince in Christendom." The duke returned to England in October, but the king continuing longer on the continent, the tempest we have described retarded, for some short time, his proceeding to England as he intended, in his way to Portugal. The English ships, which lay in the Maese, suffered considerably; some were stranded and lost. The damage however was, in some measure, repaired, in the course of three weeks; and on the 23d of December, Charles III. embarked for England, escorted by the English and Dutch squadrons. He arrived at Spithead on the 26th, where he was received by the Dukes of Somerset and Marlborough, who conducted him to Windsor, where her majesty received him with great magnificence. Having continued there three days, he repaired again to Portsmouth, and sailed from Spithead on the 5th of January, with a favourable wind; but a storm arising in the Bay of Biscay, when the admiral had nearly reached Cape Finisterre, the fleet was dispersed, and driven back to the Channel. Sir George Rooke, who had the King of Spain on-board his ship, returned to St. Helen's on the 20th of the same month; and, although the utmost dispatch was used to refit the ships, it was the 12th of February before fleet again put to sea, and it reached the Tagus on the 25th.

Soon after Sir George Rooke had sailed, the English ministry were informed that the French were very busy in fitting out a powerful fleet at Brest, under the command of the Count de Thoulouse, high-admiral of France, and a natural son of Louis XIV. This occasioned great uneasiness, as its destination could not be divined. At all events it was thought proper to equip, with the utmost expedition, a strong fleet, which was put under the command of Sir Cloudesley Shovel, admiral of the white, who had under him Sir Stafford Fairborne,

Fairborne, vice-admiral of the red, and George Byng, Esq. then rear-admiral of the same squadron. The admiral was instructed, if he found the Brest squadron still in port, to send away the trade, store-ships, and victuallers, under a proper convoy, to Lisbon, and to remain before that port himself to endeavour to keep in the enemy; or, if that was found impracticable, to burn and destroy them if they came out. But in case he found the Brest squadron sailed, then he was to call a council of war, in order to judge what strength might be necessary to be sent to Sir George Rooke; and, if it amounted to twenty-two ships, then he was to sail with them himself, that our fleet might, at all events, be stronger than that of the enemy. Sir Cloudesley executed his instructions punctually, and, finding that a great strength was necessary in the Mediterrean to oppose the French, he sailed thither about the latter end of May. Sir George Rooke, in the mean time, sailed, with the transports under his convoy, for Barcelona, it being the opinion of the Prince of Hesse-Darmstadt, that the Catalonians would declare for the house of Austria, as soon as they should be assured of proper support and protection. On the 19th of May the admiral landed his troops, which amounted to two thousand, and were commanded by the Prince of Hesse; at the same time the Dutch ketches bombarded the place. The troops remained on-shore all night, but the governor having taken care to secure all such as adhered to the house of Austria, none of the Spaniards resorted to the standard of Charles III. These unfavourable appearances led his highness to re-embark the troops the day following, from an apprehension of their being attacked and overpowered by superior numbers.

On the 21st of May the admiral steered for the Isles of Hieres, but in their passage met with a storm, which separated the fleet. On the 27th they joined again, and had fight of a large French squadron, which

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was ſteering for Toulon; and therefore it was reſolved, in a council of war, to chaſe them thither, and if it was not poſſible to prevent their getting into that port, then to ſail for Liſbon, in order to wait for a reinforcement; which was accordingly done. On the 14th of June our fleet paſſed through the Streights mouth, and were joined, two days after, by Sir Cloudeſley Shovel, with his ſquadron, off Lagos: a council of war was then called, in order to conſider what ſervice ſhould be proceeded on. Several ſchemes were propoſed, particularly a ſecond attack on Cadiz, which was ſoon found to be impracticable, for want of a ſufficient number of land forces.

On the 17th day of July the admiral called a council of war, in the road of Tetuan, wherein it was reſolved to make an attempt upon Gibraltar. This important fortreſs, from its natural advantages, ſeemed to bid defiance to all the attacks of an enemy: it was however known to be very weakly garriſoned, and the ſurprize which ſuch an unexpected aſſault would ſpread, might powerfully operate to its ſucceſs. The harbour is formed by a mole, which the Spaniards had fortified and planted with guns. It is acceſſible only on the land-ſide, by a narrow paſſage between the rocks and the ſea, which was walled and fortified. It had but two gates on that ſide, and as many towards the ſea. Acroſs this iſthmus the Spaniards had drawn a fortified line.

On the 21ſt day of July, the fleet entered the bay of Gibraltar, and the marines, both Engliſh and Dutch, amounting to eighteen hundred men, were landed on the iſthmus, under the command of the Prince of Heſſe; thereby all communication between the town and the continent was cut off. A meſſage was ſent to the governor, ſummoning him to ſurrender the place to Charles III. he anſwered, that he had ſworn allegiance to Philip, and that he would defend the place for him. Hereupon Admiral Byng, and the

Dutch admiral Vander Duſſen, were directed, with their ſhips, to cannonade the town, and Captain Hicks was appointed to act againſt the ſouth-mole. A French privateer, of twelve guns, lay under the old mole, which Captain Whittaker was commiſſioned to deſtroy, which he effected on the 22d: the ſame day, at the firſt dawn of light, the ſignal was given for cannonading the town, which was performed with ſuch vigour, that fifteen thouſand ſhot were ſpent in five hours; the admiral perceiving that enemy were thereby driven from their fortifications at the ſouth-mole-head, gave orders to Captain Whitaker to arm all the boats, and aſſault that quarter. Immediately the Captains Hicks and Jumper, who were neareſt the mole, manned their pinnaces, and entered the fortifications ſword in hand. The Spaniards, to check this ardour, ſprung a mine, by which two lieutenants and forty men were killed, and about ſixty wounded; notwithſtanding this, the two captains kept poſſeſſion of the great platform, till they were ſuſtained by Captain Whitaker, and a body of ſeamen under his command, who took, by ſtorm, a redoubt between the mole and the town. On this the admiral again ſummoned the governor to ſurrender, who, finding the bravery of the aſſailants to be irreſiſtible, capitulated on the 24th. The ſame day the Prince of Heſſe marched into the town. Beſides the natural ſtrength of the place, the town was defended by one hundred guns mounted; it was alſo well ſupplied with ammunition, but the garriſon conſiſted of no more than one hundred men. The French writers inveigh againſt this aſtoniſhing negligence in Spain, to ſuffer a place of ſuch importance to be ſo weakly manned; however, in the opinion of officers who have ſeen the works, fifty men might have defended them againſt thouſands; and the attack made by the ſeamen was brave almost beyond example. Only ſixty men were killed in this enterprize, of which were two lieutenants and

one maſter; two hundred and ſixteen were wounded, among whom were one captain, ſeven lieutenants, and a boatſwain. As the attack was projected by the admirals, ſo was it executed entirely by the ſeamen; ſo that the whole honour of the atchievement is juſtly due to them. Sir George Rooke leaving the Prince of Heſſe with as large a garriſon as he could ſpare, at Gibraltar, paſſed over, with the fleet, to Tetuan, there to take in wood and water. The Marquis de Quincy remarks, that, though Gibraltar was taken for King Charles III. yet it was never put into his poſſeſſion, but has been ever ſince kept by the Engliſh, who, to ſay the truth, continues he, have dearly purchaſed it, ſince it has coſt them more pounds ſterling than there are ſtones in the fortifications; but the advantages derived, in time of war, from the poſſeſſion of this key to the Mediterranean, fully compenſate England for all the expence which has been incurred by keeping it.

Meantime King Charles was by no means ſucceſsful by land in Portugal. He had with him eight thouſand Engliſh and Dutch troops, but his competitor Philip V. at the head of twenty thouſand French, carried the war into that kingdom early in the ſpring. Several places fell into his hands; and in various ſkirmiſhes, the Portugueſe were worſted. Affairs wore this unfavourable aſpect in Portugal, from an unhappy miſunderſtanding which had ariſen between the King of Portugal and the Duke of Schomberg, who commanded the Engliſh and Dutch auxiliaries, which aroſe to ſuch a height, that the queen recalled that nobleman, and appointed the Earl of Galloway to ſucceed him. The King of Portugal and Charles III. having made an unſucceſsful attempt to croſs the river Agueda, and penetrate into Caſtile by croſſing the kingdom of Leon, were at length forced to retreat before the Duke of Berwick, into the heart of Portugal.---But to return,

Rooke, having ſupplied the fleet at Tetuan, got under ſail on the 9th of Auguſt, and the ſame day came within ſight of the French fleet, as it was entering the Mediterranean, and proceeding to Malaga, where the commander expected ſome gallies to join him. On the 13th the combined fleet came within three leagues of the French, who brought to, with their heads to the ſouthward, the wind being eaſterly, and, forming a line, lay in a poſture to receive the attack. It had been thought, till then, that the French declined an action; but now it was found, that they had only deferred it until the gallies from Malaga had joined them. In this memorable battle, the confederate fleet conſiſted together of three-and-fifty ſhips of the line, and eighteen ſmall craft; but the admiral ordered the Swallow and the Panther, two fourth-rates, with a fifth-rate, and a ſixth rate, and two fire-ſhips, to lie to the windward of him, that, if the enemy's van ſhould puſh through our line with their gallies and fire-ſhips, they might rake them in their courſe.---The force of the French was fifty ſhips of the line and eight frigates; alſo, nine fire-ſhips, twelve gallies of France, and eleven of Spain, with two flutes: in all ninety-two ſail.

In the centre of the French fleet was the Count de Thouloufe, high-admiral of France, with the white ſquadron. The battle began about ten in the morning, north and ſouth, off Malaga, at ten or eleven leagues from ſhore, and laſted till night. Our fleet bore down in order of battle, and the engagement began with equal fury on both ſides, and continued to rage with doubtful ſucceſs, till two in the afternoon, when the enemy's van began to give way; nevertheleſs, the fight was maintained till night, when the French bore away to leeward. Sir Cloudeſley Shovel, in the Barfleur, diſcharged the firſt broadſide, on which he was bravely aſſailed by the Marquis de Villette; but a bomb, falling on the French admiral's

ſtern,

ſtern, blew up his poop, and ſet his ſhip on fire in three places, when he was obliged to quit the line of battle to extinguiſh the flames. M. de Belleiſle, the rear-admiral of the van, drove into the hotteſt of the fire, and fell early in the action; but his captain ſaved the ſhip from deſtruction, by falling out of the line. Nothing could ſurpaſs the bravery of Sir Cloudeſley Shovel on this memorable day; he ſet all his ſails, and rowed with three boats a-head, to get along-ſide the French admiral: ſcarce a ſhip in his diviſion that had not one, at leaſt, of their maſts ſhattered; his own ſhip eſcaped the beſt; and the Lenox, Warſpight, Tilbury, and Swiftſure, ſuffered moſt. In Sir George Rooke's diviſion, his own ſhip the Royal Catherine; the St. George, command by Sir John Jennings, (afterwards admiral of the white, and a lord of the admiralty;) and the Shrewſbury, Captain Crowe; were in the hotteſt of the fire. The wind ſhifting before the next morning, the French gained the weather-gage; but that day was ſpent in inaction, although the two fleets lay within three leagues of each other, repairing the damage they had ſuſtained. The French, inſtead of making uſe of the advantage which the wind afforded them, the next night filled, and ſtood to the northward. For two ſucceſſive days the Engliſh admiral endeavoured to renew the engagement, which Count Thouloufe declined.

The officers killed and wounded, on the ſide of the Engliſh, were Captains Sir Andrew Leake of the Grafton, and Crowe of the Shrewſbury; four lieutenants, two warrant-officers, killed. Captains Mynge, Namur; Baker, Monmouth; Jumper, Lenox; Mighells, Monk; and Kirkſon, Suffolk; with thirteen lieutenants, and thirteen warrant-officers; were wounded; 687 men were killed, and 1632 wounded. Of the French were ſlain, a rear-admiral, five captains, ſix lieutenants, and five ſea-enſigns. Count Thouloufe

Thoulouſe himſelf was wounded in the forehead, ſhoulder, and thigh; Count Reliques had his leg ſhot off; the Marquis de Herbault, intendant of the fleet; Du Caſſe, commodore of a ſquadron; the Marquis de Chateau Morand; Counts Phelipeaux and Cominges; M. de Valincourt, ſecretary to the admiral of France, ſeven captains, eight lieutenants, and about 150 inferior officers; were wounded; of private men, killed and wounded, the whole amount was 3048.

In this action the French poſſeſſed very ſignal advantages, notwithſtanding they were unqueſtionably worſted: their ſhips were larger; for in their fleet were ſeventeen three-decked ſhips, whilſt the confederates had only ſeven, two of which were Dutch men of war. Their weight of metal gave them alſo a great ſuperiority, they having a much greater number of guns: their ſhips were clean, being juſt come out of port; whereas ours had been long at ſea, and had done hard ſervice: farther, they had the aſſiſtance of their gallies, which did them eſſential ſervice: they were well provided with ammunition, which ours ſo much wanted, that ſeveral ſhips were towed out of the line, becauſe they had not either powder or ball ſufficient for a ſingle broadſide. But the ſkill of the admiral, and the bravery of the officers and ſeamen under his command, ſupplied all defects, and decided our ſuperiority at ſea.

The French indeed claimed the victory, as they never fail to do whenever miſrepreſentation can render ſuch claim plauſible. Louis XIV. wrote to the the Archbiſhop of Paris, directing *Te Deum* to be ſung on that occaſion, and afterwards publiſhed an account to corroborate this aſſertion. The French academy went ſo far as to cauſe a medal to be ſtruck on the occaſion, as if, inſtead of being defeated, their countrymen had gained a victory, the memory of which was worthy of being tranſmitted to poſterity.

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The fact is, that both ſides deſerved the victory, had ſucceſs depended on valour. Though no ſhips were ſunk or loſt, the fleets were ſo much diſabled, that neither ſhewed any great inclination to renew the fight. The French, unable to aſſiſt the Spaniards, made the moſt of the wind to carry them to their own port of Toulon; while Sir George Rooke, having waited for them two days, at length left a ſquadron under the command of Sir John Leake, on the coaſt of Spain, to protect the trade, and fruſtrate any deſigns which the enemy might form, and then proceeded to Gibraltar, with the fleet of the allies. On the 24th day of Auguſt the admiral left that harbour, and that day month reached England.

The brilliant ſucceſſes which had crowned the arms of the allies, both by ſea and land, during this memorable year, had given a very favourable turn to the aſpect of affairs in England. The parliament met on the 29th day of October, when the queen, in her ſpeech, took notice of the great and remarkable ſucceſs which had bleſſed her arms, and the ſatisfaction which it had ſpread through all parts of the kingdom. The two houſes of parliament, actuated by the oppoſite party-principles which prevailed in each, in their addreſſes, expreſſed their ſentiments of the advantages gained by the land and ſea commanders very differently. The lords confined themſelves to the glorious ſucceſs of her majeſty's arms under the Duke of Marlborough, and were quite ſilent on the acquiſition of Gibraltar, and the engagement at ſea. The ſplendour of the victory obtained at Blenheim was made uſe of inviduouſly to obſcure the important, though leſs deciſive, affair of Malaga. The commons very widely differed in their ſentiments from the upper houſe. They choſe to conſider the battle of Blenheim, and Rooke's naval exploits, as equally important and glorious. It was happy for the nation, that theſe divided ſentiments, with reſpect to particular

lar commanders, did not impede the buſineſs of the nation. Supplies were liberally voted; alſo a bounty to the ſeamen and land forces, who had behaved themſelves ſo gallantly in the late actions both by ſea and land. 4,670,931l. were granted for the ſervice of the enſuing year, which were raiſed by a land-tax, the ſale of annuities, and other expedients. A proviſion was made for 40,000 ſeamen, for the year 1705, including 8,000 marines; 100,000l. was allowed for the ordinary of the navy for the ſame year, and 40,000l. to the office of ordnance for the ſea ſervice, over and above the uſual proviſion; 10,000l. were likewiſe given for conſtructing a wharf and ſtorehouſe at Portſmouth.

The Duke of Marlborough paſſed over to Holland in the beginning of April, 1705, and took the field early in May. His aim was to improve the victories of the preceding campaign, by carrying the war by the Moſelle into the heart of France. For this purpoſe he marched through the country of Lembourg. On the ſide of France great efforts were made to oppoſe the victories of Marlborough. The broken remains of the army were re-aſſembled, the garriſons were drained, and the militia ordered to take the field. An army was at laſt muſtered up, and Marſhal Villars was recalled from the remoteſt part of the Cevennes, to take upon him the command. The army of France was aſſembled near Treves. Both generals were equally deſirous of coming to an engagement; but the Prince of Baden failing to join the allies with the army of the empire, as it is generally ſuppoſed, out of envy at Marlborough's unequalled greatneſs, Villars had at leaſt the honour of compelling the Engliſh general to decamp, no inconſiderable glory at that time. Voltaire gives us a letter written by the duke to the marquis at decamping, which runs thus: "Do me the juſtice to believe, that my retreat is owing to the Prince of Baden; and that my

my eſteem for you is greater than my diſpleaſure againſt him."

Juſt as the operations of the campaign commenced, the Emperor Leopold died at Vienna, and was ſucceeded on the Imperial throne by his eldeſt ſon Joſeph, king of the Romans. The new emperor was ſo deſtitute of reſources, that he was incapable of furniſhing his quota of troops. The French availed themſelves of this poſture of affairs. Hui fell into their hands, and Liege was threatened with an attack. By the duke's decampment, the progreſs of the French in Flanders was checked; Hui was retaken on the 12th day of July, and the duke reſolved to retrieve, by ſome enterprize of conſequence, the glory loſt by his retrograde motions.

This was no other than a ſcheme for forcing the French lines, for which purpoſe his army encamped within a league of the enemy. The Elector of Bavaria and Marſhal Villeroi, perceiving the deſign of the allies, drew their armies together, leaving only ſmall detachments to defend the lines on either ſide. On the 17th day of July, the Duke of Marlborough gave orders for the Dutch to march towards Mehaigne, which lay about half a league to the right of the French camp: this was meant as a feint; while, at the ſame time, he ordered 10,000 men to form on his right, and to lie down there, on their arms. When it grew dark, this body marched towards two barriers which defended the enemy's camp on the left. The whole army followed this detachment; and the Dutch, who had been ſent off a contrary way, immediately faced about, and proceeded in the ſame route. The Elector of Bavaria, at length, apprized of the duke's real deſign, ordered the left wing of his cavalry to march, to prevent the allies from paſſing the barriers; he himſelf following with the infantry. But the Engliſh had already formed within the lines. After a fierce ſhock between the duke and the Bavarian in-

fantry, the latter were obliged to give way: ten battalions, however, throwing themſelves into a hollow ſquare, marched off in defiance of the cavalry of the allies, and protected, as they retreated, their flying friends. In this action the confederates took the Marquis d'Alegre, and the Count de Horne, lieutenant-generals; one major-general, two brigadier-generals, with many other officers, and a great number of common ſoldiers; with a profuſion of military trophies, and ten pieces of cannon. The duke, in this action, narrowly eſcaped death, whilſt charging at the head of a detachment: a Bavarian officer aimed a blow at him with his ſcymetar, but in endeavouring to give it extraordinary force he fell from his horſe, and was inſtantly killed. The French and Bavarians having, after the action, retired behind the Dyle, the reſt of the campaign in Germany was paſſed in inactivity.

The French were more ſucceſsful in Italy. Suza, Verceil, Ivrée, in a word, almoſt all Piedmont, had fallen into their hands, and they beſieged the important fortreſs of Verruë from the 15th of October, 1704, to the 7th of April, 1705, ſo that the Duke of Savoy was reduced to the laſt extremity; but in ſpite of all his loſſes he ſupported himſelf always with hopes of ſeeing Prince Eugene come to his relief. He appeared always at the head of his troops, and led them, during the ſiege, in ſeveral ſallies and attacks, and performed, in defence of the place, prodigies of valour. At laſt, however, the town ſurrendered; and the King of France; that he might give this conqueſt all the luſtre imaginable, ſpoke in ſuch terms of the Duke of Savoy as did him great honour.

Prince Eugene arrived on the 23d of April at Roveredo, in order to proceed to the army in Italy to ſuccour the Duke of Savoy. The prince, as ſoon as he came, formed a deſign of paſſing the Mincio, that

that he might either ſuccour Mirandola, or penetrate into Piedmont; but detachments of Vendome's army ſo diligently watched all his motions, that he found it impoſſible to paſs that river, though his infantry was arrived on the very brink of it. Mirandola ſurrendered to the French on the 11th of May, for want of proviſions. Prince Eugene having received advice of the loſs of this place, and finding ſtill greater and greater difficulties in attempting the paſſing the Mincio, turned his views another way, reſolving to enter the Breſſan, and to advance to Caſtlenovo. He began this expedition by cauſing his foot to croſs the lake de Garda to Salo; he afterwards went over in perſon, while the cavalry continued their march through Riva, above the lake of Garda, in order to join the foot in the camp of General Bibra. Prince Eugene, having joined with all his forces General Bibra, reſolved to offer the enemy battle, in caſe they oppoſed his paſſage into the Milaneſe.

The Duke de Vendome, and the grand prior his brother, conſidering of what importance it was to check Prince Eugene, formed a deſign of attacking him in his camp; in order to this, having put themſelves at the head of the army of the two crowns, decamping from Bedizolo, they marched in three columns towards Gavardo, where finding the Imperialiſts were advantageouſly poſted on an eminence between Gavarda and Salo, and that their front was covered by five or ſix villages well entrenched, they thought it temerity to attack the prince in ſuch a ſituation. They therefore reſolved to poſt themſelves before the camp of the prince, within a cannon-ſhot, their left extending to Chieſa, and their right to the lake de Garda; beſides the ſecurity reſulting from this ſituation, the grand prior took care to cover his camp with good retrenchments; and the Duke of Vendome, having given inſtructions as to what he would have done, ſet out for Milan.

The grand prior, who was intruſted with the army of the two crowns, on the thirtieth of May ordered ſome companies of grenadiers to take poſſeſſion of a ſtrong caſſine ſituated on the Naviglio, not above 500 paces from the advanced guard of the Imperial camp. The prince thought it neceſſary to retake it, and to that end ſent Prince Alexander of Wirtemberg, who made himſelf maſter of it in the night of the 31ſt of the ſame month, but not without ſome difficulty and loſs. Thoſe poſted therein made a vigorous reſiſtance. They were forced to drive them from room to room till they came to the laſt, and after killing or taking them all priſoners, they were obliged to engage and to defeat Lieutenant-general St. Fremont, who came to ſupport that party with 400 dragoons and 600 grenadiers. The end of this buſineſs was, that the caſſine remained in the hands of the Imperialiſts, who made it the head of a line of communication drawn from one river to the other, to ſecure the paſſage, and to ſhut up the avenues of the camp. But, as the prince came to ſuccour the Duke of Savoy, either by making a diverſion, or by joining him, the firſt proving unſucceſsful, he reſolved to attempt the latter. In order to this, having taken proper meaſures in the night of the 21ſt of June, he decamped with his army, and marched with ſuch diligence and ſilence that it was two hours after day-light before the French perceived it; they then decamped alſo in order to obſerve him. The prince arrived the 27th in the morning at Urago on the Oglio, where he deſigned to croſs the river. Here he found the noiſe of his march had out-ſtript it, ſo that the enemy had ſeized all the little poſts on the other ſide of the river, had ſtrengthned them with entrenchments, and had poſted guards of horſe between thoſe entrenchments and the Oglio. He paſſed the river notwithſtanding. The cavalry were obliged to paſs where it was not perfectly fordable; they were

were forced therefore to ſwim, which occaſioned the loſs of the Count de Serini, lieutenant veld marſhal, who, being taken by a vertigo, fell into the water and was drowned. They worked immediately on a bridge, which they finiſhed, ſo that the infantry paſſed the 28th in the morning with the reſt of the cavalry, all the artillery and baggage.

The prince's army encamped in the evening at Calzo, and 100 Spaniards who were in the caſtle yielded themſelves priſoners of war. The garriſon of Palazzuolo fearing the ſame fate, though it conſiſted of ſix battalions, retired towards Bergamo, after throwing into the river 6,000 ſacks of meal, and leaving a few troops in the caſtle in order to amuſe thoſe of the emperor. Prince Eugene ordered them immediately to be purſued by a detachment of horſe-grenadiers, who came up with them about half a league from Bergamo, routed them, and took 900 with their general, a colonel, and 19 other officers, priſoners; a great many were killed, and the reſt ſaved themſelves in the mountains. Soon after a detachment of the Imperial army entered the town of Palazzuolo, and, having begun to undermine the the caſtle, the troops there, to the number of 220 men, including officers, yielded themſelves priſoners.

However the grand prior followed conſtantly with his army; he had paſſed the Oglio at Pontevico the 2d of June, and had poſted himſelf in the neighbourhood of Crema, his right at Soncino, and his left at Sanevolta, but without undertaking any thing which might produce a battle. In the night between the 2d and 3d of July he went to Ambriano, between Crema and Lodi. Here he was joined by the Duke of Vendome. The ſiege of Chivas had taken him up from the 15th or 20th of June to the 10th of July; but, on advice of the paſſage of the Oglio by Prince Eugene, and the rapidity of his march, he altered his deſigns; and, having left the army before Chivas,

Chivas, under the command of the Duke de la Feuillade, he on the 11th of July detached 18 battalions, and as many ſquadrons, under the command of Count Albergotti, and marched with all imaginable diligence to join the grand prior. By this junction the ſuperiority was on the ſide of the French, and that to ſuch a degree, that the Imperial army ſeemed to have it equally out of its power, either to advance or retire. The prince therefore reſolved, to make himſelf maſter of Uſtiano, Caneto, and Marcaria, poſts upon the Oglio, whereby his communication might be opened with the lake de Garda. In three days the three poſts were taken; but, the Duke of Vendome on the one ſide, and the grand prior on the other advancing with great detachments to retake them, they were immediately abandoned. All this happened between the 18th and the 27th of July, by which time the prince reſolved to purſue his march towards Piedmont, and he arrived without any obſtacle at a place above Caſſano where he propoſed to paſs the river, but found it impracticable. The prince thereupon was obliged to ſeek for another paſſage ſome miles higher, where he accordingly found ſuch a place as exactly ſuited him; but, while he was making his preparations, the van of the French army came in ſight. They had decamped from Sorecina as ſoon as they obſerved the motion of the Imperialiſts, and, inſtead of marching together, they now moved in two bodies. The grand prior, with 20 battalions and 30 ſquadrons, marched along the Ada, without croſſing it, and halted over againſt Caſſano. The Duke of Vendome, with 15 battalions and as many ſquadrons, had paſſed it, and marched the ſame way with the utmoſt diligence.

The prince therefore was obliged to give over all thoughts of paſſing, and the next day, being the 15th, he made the army retire to Pembrato, where he paſſed the night. In the middle of their retreat, the

the van of the Imperial army, commanded by the Baron de Raedt, colonel and quarter-maſter-general, fell in with the foragers of the grand prior, and took ſome of them priſoners. From theſe they learned that he was on this ſide the Ada, but very advantageouſly poſted, having Caſſano in his rear, and in his front a canal called Ritorta, which ſerved him for a retrenchment. The prince, judging the occaſion favourable becauſe of the diviſion of the French forces, reſolved to attack them, becauſe he was thoroughly perſuaded that the grand prior was alone; the haſte he had made would not ſuffer him to think otherwiſe. However, he was deceived; the road by which the Duke de Vendome marched thither being ſhorter by half than his.

The firſt attack was made by the right of the Imperialiſts and the left of the enemy, and in half a quarter of an hour the engagement was general. But before we can tell how, and with what ſucceſs, it will be neceſſary to explain the diſpoſition of each army. The enemy's infantry, conſiſting of 35 battalions, lined the Ritorta. They were ranged in two lines, the ſecond being weaker than the firſt, and intermixed with ſome ſquadrons, the reſt of their cavalry formed a third line; they had the Ada behind them, and behind the Ada the town of Caſſano, their communication with which was preſerved by a bridge, which was fortified. Caſſano had a garriſon of troops, and was ſo well furniſhed with cannon, that it protected their whole camp. The country was neither too cloſe nor too open. They could eaſily cover their infantry, having on the right two deep canals which ſerved them for entrenchments. The canal of Ritorta covered them from the wing of the other; there was no coming at them without paſſing it; and to paſs it there was a neceſſity of jumping into the water up to the neck; there was on their left a bridge, of which alſo they were maſters. The Imperialiſts were drawn

drawn up on the other ſide of the canal, in order of battle, and they formed three attacks, one on the right, one on the left, and one on the centre. The fire of the ſmall arms was very briſk, the whole length of the canal; the left of the duke's army was the firſt diſordered; the Imperialiſts penetrated there by the bridge, and put them into ſome confuſion, but at laſt they rallied, and repulſed vigorouſly thoſe who had puſhed them. The fire of the ſmall arms began again at half a piſtol-ſhot diſtance, the canal being between them; it laſted for a full hour pretty equally, at laſt the French had the diſadvantage, and began to give way. The Imperialiſts then paſſed the canal a ſecond time, and, falling upon the French with bayonets fixed, put them to the rout. The French, finding themſelves preſſed by the enemy, and having behind them a river that was not very broad, thought it might be eaſily paſſed, and ſo threw themſelves in headlong, not conſidering its rapidity. Many were drowned; the reſt abandoned their horſes, and retired to the head of the bridge of Caſſano.

The left of the Imperialiſts, after firing ſome time acroſs the canal, at laſt threw themſelves into the water by whole battalions at a time, and formed on the other ſide; there they found two canals more; they attempted to paſs theſe alſo, and actually paſſed one of them in ſpite of all reſiſtance.

The place where the Imperialiſts fought leaſt ſucceſsfully was in the center. They endeavoured to penetrate in two places, but were repulſed. Prince Eugene thereupon ordered a general halt; the engagement had now laſted four hours, the ſoldiers had no powder, and it was not eaſy to carry them any on the other ſide of the canal. Beſides this, the enemy had poſted the right in ſuch a manner that it was impoſſible to force them, and their center was ſuſtained by the continual fire of the cannon of Caſſano. Theſe conſiderations determined Prince Eugene

to

to put an end to the engagement. He did not however withdraw his troops immediately, they remained a long time in the field of battle; but in the evening he drew them off. His retreat was not attended with any loſs, except in leaving on the other ſide of the canal three pieces of cannon which they had taken from the enemy, but were not able to carry away for want of horſes. Prince Eugene was wounded by a muſket-ſhot behind the ear; and had 2023 men ſlain, and 2042 wounded. The Duke of Vendome received a ſlight wound in the leg, he had alſo a horſe killed under him, and two of his valets; his ſecretary and the captain of his guard were torn from his ſide by a cannon-ſhot.

The great point the French had in view this campaign was the ſiege of Turin; but the Duke of Vendome was ſo weakened by the battle of Caſſano, and ſo much dreaded a ſecond attack from Prince Eugene, that this darling project of the French king was obliged to be abandoned; and thus ended the campaign of 1705 in Italy.

During theſe tranſactions, the French and Spaniards determined to attempt the recovery of Gibraltar. Thoſe powers foreſaw all the conſequences reſulting from the Engliſh poſſeſſing that marine barrier, which have ſince been realized: ſuch as, affording a ſecure ſtation for ſhips of war, as well as a retreat for merchantmen, and a refreſhing harbour for both: beſides which, its vicinity to Cadiz, and ſituation at the ſouthern extremity of Europe, gave England every advantage ſhe could wiſh, for annoying the Spaniards in their intercourſe with the Weſt-Indies, in time of war. Philip of Spain therefore ſent a body of troops to attack Gibraltar by land, under the command of Marquis Villadanas, whilſt a fleet of French men of war, conſiſting of thirteen ſhips, commanded by their rear-admiral de Pointis, blocked up the place by ſea. The Prince of Heſſe gained a knowledge of theſe de-

ſigns early in the month of October, and ſent advice thereof to Sir John Leake, who lay at Liſbon with his ſquadron. The admiral haſtened immediately to the relief of the place, and landed ſeveral gunners, carpenters, and engineers, together with a body of four hundred marines. Having thrown in this neceſſary ſuccour, he returned to Liſbon, not having a ſufficient ſtrength to make head againſt the French fleet, which was then approaching. However, he quickly returned with a freſh ſupply of neceſſaries for the uſe of the garriſon, and on the 29th day of October entered the bay, where he ſurprized and took two frigates, one of forty-two guns, and the other of twenty-four, with ſome ſmaller veſſels. Beſides theſe advantages, he arrived very opportunely to prevent the ſtorming of the town, which was intended to have taken place the following night. During the whole month of November, the Engliſh admiral rendered eſſential ſervices to the beſieged, and greatly annoyed their enemies. Early in December the Antelope and Newcaſtle men of war arrived, with a ſmall fleet of tranſports, having on-board near 2,000 land forces, all which, by good forture, ſeconded by good conduct, had eſcaped from de Pointis's fleet, which, by diſpaying Engliſh and Dutch colours, had endeavoured to enſnare them. By the arrival of this force, the garriſon was augmented to more than 3,000 men, which rendered the place ſo ſecure, that the fleet returned to Liſbon in order to refit. Early in the year 1705, the Spaniſh general Villadarias, was ſuperſeded, and the command beſtowed on Marſhal de Teſſé, captain-general, and a Frenchman who, though he ſurpaſſed his predeceſſor in military ſkill, yet he diſguſted the Spaniſh officers, who were too haughty to receive orders from a foreigner. On the 6th day of March, Sir Thomas Dilkes arrived in the Tagus from England, with five third-rate men of war, and a body of troops, whereupon

upon the Vice-admiral Sir John Leake ſet ſail for Gibraltar, and, coming within ſight of the bay on the 10th day of March, he deſcried five ſail of the line coming out. He immediately gave chace to theſe ſhips, which proved to be Magnanime of 84 guns; the Lilly of 88 guns; the Ardent of 66 guns; the Arrogant of 60 guns; and the Marquis of 56. Theſe were commanded by M. de Pointis in perſon, who was on-board the Magnanime. The Arrogant ſtruck to Sir Thomas Dilkes, after having made a very weak defence; the other four ran aſhore to the weſtward of Marbella, in Andaluſia, where they were deſtroyed. The remaining part of the French ſquadron, having a few days before been blown from their anchors, had taken ſhelter in Malaga Bay; but, hearing the report of the guns, they ſlipped their cables, and ſtretched away for Toulon. The Marſhal de Teſſé, having now loſt the aſſiſtance of the fleet, and finding the Engliſh ride triumphant at ſea, turned the ſiege of Gibraltar into a blockade. During this ſiege upwards of 8,000 bombs were thrown, and 70,000 cannon ſhot fired againſt the town, but to very little effect. From that day the French no longer made a figure with their numerous fleets, on the ocean and the Mediterranean. The marine now ſunk again into that weak condition from whence Louis had raiſed it, in the ſame manner as many other grand things, which had their riſe and fall during his reign.

While Sir John Leake was employed in this expedition, Sir George Byng was ſent, with a ſmall ſquadron, to cruiſe in the Soundings, to protect the merchant-ſhips. It was in conſequence of the enquiries which the houſe of lords had ſet on foot, that a flag-officer was appointed to ſuperintend this ſervice, which proved very beneficial to the trade of England, as well as a great annoyance to the enemy; for a French man of war of 44 guns, together with 12 privateers,

and 7 merchant-ſhips, richly laden from the Weſt-Indies, were captured.

The grand fleet was now put under the command of the Earl of Peterborough and Sir Cloudeſley Shovel; the latter of whom was choſen by the whigs to ſupply the place of Sir George Rooke. The Earl of Peterborough was one of the moſt extraordinary men that England, ſo fruitful in bold, courageous, and uncommon, geniuſſes, ever produced. He was a man that ſtrongly reſembled thoſe imaginary heroes, whom the Spaniards have repreſented in their romances. Theſe joint commanders had a well-appointed fleet, conſiſting of 29 line of battle ſhips, beſides frigates, fire-ſhips, bombs, and other ſmall craft, and 5,000 land forces. On the 11th day of June they arrived in the Tagus. Here they met with Sir John Leake and his ſquadron, alſo the Dutch admiral Allemonde; the combined ſhips then amounting to 48 ſhips of the line. In a council of war it was determined, to put to ſea with this force, and to ſtation it in ſuch a manner, between cape Spartel and the bay of Cadiz, as might beſt prevent the junction of the French ſquadron from Toulon and Breſt. The Prince of Heſſe-Darmſtadt, arriving from Gibraltar, aſſured King Charles, that the province of Catalonia, and the kingdom of Valentia, were attached to his intereſt; and his majeſty, being weary of Portugal, reſolved to accompany the Earl of Peterborough to Barcelona. He accordingly embarked with him on-board the Ranelagh, and the fleet ſailed on the 28th of July, the Earl of Galway having reinforced them with two regiments of Engliſh dragoons. At Gibraltar they took on board the Engliſh guards, and three old regiments, in lieu of which they left two new-raiſed battalions. On the 11th day of Auguſt they anchored in the bay of Altea, in the kingdom of Valentia, where the Earl of Peterborough publiſhed a ma-

nifeſto in the Spaniſh language, which had ſuch an effect, that all the inhabitants of the place, the neighbouring villages, and adjacent mountains, acknowledged King Charles as their lawful ſovereign. They ſeized the town of Denia for his ſervice; and he ſent thither a garriſon of 400 men, under the command of Major-general Ramos. On the 22d they arrived in the bay of Barcelona: the troops were diſembarked to the eaſtward of the city, where they encamped in a ſtrong ſituation, and were well received by the country people. King Charles landed amidſt the acclamations of an infinite number from the adjacent towns and villages, who threw themſelves at his feet, exclaiming, "Long live the king!" and exhibited all the marks of the moſt extravagant joy. The inhabitants of Barcelona were well affected to the houſe of Auſtria, but over-awed by a garriſon of 5,000 men, under the Duke de Popoli, Velaſco, and other officers devoted to the intereſt of King Philip.

The city of Barcelona is one of the moſt ancient in Spain. It is ſituated in a plain on the coaſt of the Mediterranean; it is compoſed of two towns, the old and the new, ſurrounded with good walls, fortified with deep ditches and ten baſtions: the ſafety and commodiouſneſs of its ports hath rendered it a place of great trade; this port being protected on one ſide by a mole, with a ſmall fort, and on the other ſide by the famous fortreſs of Monjuick, built on a promontory which ſhoots out on that ſide, the caſtle being large enough to receive a garriſon of 4 or 500 men. The city itſelf, by dint of theſe advantages, is at once very populous, very rich, and very magnificent, and, taken all together, may be reckoned one of the fineſt cities in Spain. Don Franciſco de Velaſco, viceroy of Catalonia, commanded here for King Philip, and took all the meaſures poſſible for making a vigorous defence. As ſoon as the declarations publiſhed by King Charles and Sir Cloudeſley Shovel were brought

brought into the town, the viceroy assembled not only the nobility and the principal townsmen, but even the mechanics; to these he made a very pathetic speech, in which he insisted particularly on the fame the Catalonians had long preserved, of being inviolably faithful to good princes; he took notice of the kindness which King Philip had always shewed them, and then observed that it was very possible in so large a city there might be many malcontents from various reasons, he therefore exhorted all such to declare themselves frankly, promising them upon his faith and honour that he would freely permit them to go and join the Prince of Darmstadt, which he thought would be acting like honest men and fair enemies, which if they refused to do, he hoped they would not charge him with any cruelty, if he caused every person detected in giving intelligence to the enemy, or any other act of treason, to be hanged up without form or process, let him be priest or laymen, mechanic or man of quality. They all unanimously cried out that they would hold out the place to the last drop of their blood for their lawful sovereign King Philip; though it is very certain that the far greater part of those present, and especially the clergy, were in the interest of King Charles, and were daily doing all they could to put the city into his hands. Among these the commanding officer in Monjuick was one; but the Count de Velasco, having discovered it, ordered him and four or five of his accomplices to be hanged, and then caused the garrison to be changed.

After the Earl of Peterborough had taken on himself the compliance with the King of Spain's (Charles III.) request, he did all in his power to carry it on with success. The attack of the citadel of Monjuick appeared to be the only means whereby the city in a short space might be brought to surrender; for, that fortress once carried, Barcelona would have been in a manner uncovered on that side. Colonel Southwell

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at the head of 400 grenadiers, ſupported by a detachment of 600 foot, marched in the night through rough and rocky ways, where ſometimes only one man could paſs a-breaſt, and arrived after thirteen hours fatigue at the enemy's works. However the attack was bravely carried on, and the place in all likelihood had been taken ſword in hand, if ſuccours could have been prevented from coming from the town; this the Prince of Heſſe perceiving, adviſed the attacking a poſt which would have cut off that communication, and marched at the head of the men detached for that purpoſe. In this ſervice the Prince of Heſſe received a ſhot in his thigh, which tore open the great artery; he marched on however, without complaining, about fifty paces, and then dropped. He was immediately taken up and carried to a little houſe hard by, where before his wound could be examined he died through the effuſion of blood. The death of this illuſtrious perſon, and the taking of two companies of foot, who were decoyed into the enemy's power, by their throwing up their hats, and crying, "Long live King Charles the Third!" ſo diſcouraged the troops, that they could not be brought to attack again, the grenadiers poſitively refuſing to follow Colonel Southwell. Upon this occaſion it was that the Earl of Peterborough ſhewed an intrepidity that can never be too much applauded: he went directly to the grenadiers' poſt, drew his ſword, and, throwing away the ſcabbard, ſaid, "I am ſure all brave men will follow me." The grenadiers, ſeeing the earl advance, ſet up a loud huzza, and marched cheerfully to the attack. In the mean time the miquelets in the ſervice of King Charles took the fort of St. Bertram, in which were five pieces of cannon, ſo that all communication between the fortreſs of Monjuick and the city was abſolutely cut off. The Spaniſh governor however remaining obſtinate, the place was bombarded and cannonaded for ſeveral days together. On the

17th

17th Colonel Southwell obſerving that a mortar threw to the left of the fort, traverſed it himſelf, and firing it immediately after, the bomb fell into a magazine of powder, which tore up an angle of the wall with one of the gates, and buried the brave governor in its ruins. Colonel Southwell took this opportunity to enter the place ſword in hand, made the garriſon conſiſting of 300 men priſoners of war, and, by reducing this ſtrong fortreſs, opened a path to the ſpeedy conqueſt of Barcelona. Two days after the trenches were opened before the town, which they battered with 50 pieces of cannon, the army being too ſmall to inveſt the town, the Earl of Peterborough divided it, and by encamping on both ſides, and placing a guard of horſe on the road leading to Perpignan, effectually ſhut it up. To prevent fatiguing the ſoldiers, he diſpoſed them ſo that on the one ſide certain garden walls, and on the other two great roads, ſerved inſtead of entrenchments. In a ſhort time a breach was made wide enough to be attacked, which Don Velaſco no ſooner ſaw than he reſolved to capitulate; for he knew there was no truſting the people in the town. On the 9th of October the place was ſurrendered; but the garriſon underwent a ſeverer trial afterwards, the inhabitants of Barcelona riſing and attempting to cut their's and the viceroy's throats; but the Earl of Peterborough interpoſed with a vigour worthy of an Engliſh general, and took care to ſee his capitulation performed with the utmoſt exactneſs.

King Charles entered Barcelona in triumph. All the other places in Catalonia declared for him except Roſes; ſo that one of the largeſt and richeſt provinces in Spain was ſubdued by an army ſcarce double the number of the garriſon of Barcelona. It was then determined, in a council of war, that the King of Spain, and the Earl of Peterborough, ſhould continue in Catalonia with the land forces, and that Sir Cloudeſley Shovel ſhould proceed for England with the beſt

beſt part of the fleet; that Sir John Leake, with a ſtrong ſquadron, ſhould remain in the Mediterranean; that ſix ſhips ſhould be left to attend the Earl of Peterborough, two more remain at Gibraltar, and a third and fourth rate be employed in cruiſing for the homeward-bound Brazil fleet. In purſuance of which reſolutions, Sir Cloudeſley, with 19 ſhips of the line, and part of the Dutch fleet, paſſed the Straits on the 16th day of October, and arrived at Spithead on the 26th day of November following, after having conducted a moſt glorious ſea campaign.

In ſome meaſure to counterbalance theſe ſucceſſes in the Mediterranean, a fleet of merchantmen, homeward-bound from the Baltic, who were convoyed by three men of war, was met by a French ſquadron, conſiſting of five men of war and five privateers, commanded by the Count de St. Paul, which ſailed from Dunkirk. The whole fleet of merchant-ſhips, being 12 in number, together with their convoy, fell into the hands of this ſquadron. The Count de St. Paul, who, after the death of the famous Du Bart, was looked upon as the beſt ſeaman in France, and was therefore promoted to the command of the Dunkirk ſquadron, in the room of M. de Pointis, was ſhot with a muſket-ball in the heat of the action, and killed upon the ſpot. When the account of this action was brought to Louis XIV. at Verſailles, he received the news with great coolneſs, ſaying, with a ſigh, "I wiſh the prizes were all ſafe in any Engliſh port, if that would reſtore me M. de St. Paul." By ſuch generous teſtimonies of reſpect for true merit, the French king, in the midſt of his misfortunes, maintained a ſucceſſion of brave officers, ever ready to expoſe their lives in his ſervice.

At home we had this year an inſtance of naval diſcipline, which deſerves a place in this work. One Captain Croſs, who commanded the Elizabeth, gave her up to the French in the Channel, after a very ſlight

defence. He was tried by a court-martial on-board the Triumph, on the 25th of Auguſt, Sir George Byng being preſident, and having 12 captains to aſſiſt him. It appeared there, that he ſhewed the utmoſt ſigns of fear, which intimidated the men, and that, if he had behaved as he ought to have done, the enemy might have been repulſed, and the ſhip ſaved. He offered ſeveral things in his defence, ſuch as that, his ſurgeon was ſick, and many of the men were drunk, and would not do their duty; but, upon a full hearing, he was declared guilty of neglect of duty, and the ſentence pronounced upon him was, that he ſhould be caſhiered, rendered incapable to ſerve her majeſty in any capacity, forfeit all the arrears due to him, and remain a priſoner for life; which ſentence was executed without any mitigation, except as to his impriſonment.

A new parliament met on the 25th of October, in which the intereſt of the whigs was found greatly to preponderate. The queen, in her ſpeech, repreſented the neceſſity of acting vigorouſly againſt France, as a common enemy to the intereſts of Europe: ſhe ſignified her intention to expedite commiſſions for treating of an union with Scotland; earneſtly recommended an union of minds and affections among her people; declared that her endeavours ſhould be ſteadily exerted to promote religion and virtue, to encourage trade, and whatever elſe might tend to make her ſubjects happy and proſperous.

The iſſue of the laſt campaign, both by ſea and land, having furniſhed a fair proſpect of humbling the houſe of Bourbon in Flanders, and diſpoſſeſſing them of Spain, the houſe of commons cheerfully paſſed the ſupplies: they voted 250,000l. for proſecuting the advantages which had been gained in Spain; and for the whole ſervice, during the ſucceeding year in that kingdom, they gave 726,740l. in addition. The ſupply for the ſea ſervice for the year 1706, was

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rated at 40,000 men, including marines: the ſum of 120,000l. was voted for the ordinary of the navy; 10,000l. to the office of ordnance, for the works at Portſmouth; and 82,298l. 17s. for ordnance ſtores and carriages for eight new ſhips built to ſupply the loſs of ſuch as periſhed in the great ſtorm.

The Duke of Marlborough commenced the campaign of 1706 in Flanders, with an army of 80,000 men, and ſtill expected reinforcements from Denmark and Pruſſia. The court of France reſolved to attack him before this junction. Villeroy, who commanded an army conſiſting of 80,000 men, near Tirlemont, had orders to engage. This brought on the famous battle, called, from the village near which it was fought, the battle of Ramillies. It happened on Whitſunday, the 23d of May. The two armies were in ſight by eight o'clock in the morning, having nothing but a rivulet, which was almoſt dry, between them. That of the enemy ſtretched its right to the Tomb of Ottemont, towards the Mehaigne, being compoſed of the houſhold troops, ſuſtained by eight brigades of horſe, having before it the village of Franquenie, where M. Villeroy had poſted four battalions; the left extended itſelf towards Autregliſe, in which there was a body of foot; they had in the ſame manner three villages in their front, one on their right, one on their left, and a third in the centre. The firſt line of their infantry was in theſe three villages, the ſecond had before it ſome retrenchments, partly natural and partly thrown up in haſte. Their left and their front were covered by a little rivulet ſo ſteep that cavalry could not paſs it. They were more open on their right, which was the reaſon that they poſted there the houſhold troops and the greateſt part of their horſe. As faſt as the army of the allies arrived between Merdorp and Boneff, the Duke of Marlborough and M. Auverquerque drew them up in order of battle, the right near Folz on the

Yauſe, with a little moraſs before it, the left towards the Mehaigne near Brancha: behind the centre was Jandrouille, where they poſted a body of reſerve conſiſting of their beſt troops, which were afterwards of great uſe. Between eleven and twelve o'clock the armies fronted each other, equally impatient to come to an engagement. The cannonading was begun at half paſt one; and at half paſt two the action commenced on the left, between the houſhold troops of France and the Dutch horſe, commanded by Count de Tilly, as general, by the lieutenant-generals Dopff, the Prince of Eaſt Friſe, the Count de Hompeſch, and the major-generals Vandernath, the Prince d'Auvergne and St. Laurent. The engagement was long and obſtinate, the Dutch being twice repulſed, and the French as often.

The Duke of Marlborough, being apprehenſive of the danger to which the Dutch troops were expoſed, galloped from the right to the left, and in the way ordered the infantry in the centre to engage, which was the grand attack. It was made on the village of Ramillies, full of the enemy's infantry, and where they had a great part of their cannon. The duke ordered 24 pieces of cannon and 12 battalions to advance againſt it from the centre, which was done, and the troops engaged with all imaginable vigour, being ſuſtained by the whole firſt line of infantry. His grace had recourſe on this occaſion to a feint, which ſucceeded perfectly well; he ordered the Engliſh foot to defile towards the left of the enemy, as if they intended to attack the village of Offer, which covered them on that ſide; this had ſuch an effect on the French, that they immediately ſent their beſt troops thither, which greatly weakened their centre, where the battle continued however for an hour and a half, with much obſtinacy and bloodſhed.

In the duke's paſſage from the right to the left, when he went to ſuccour the Dutch horſe, he twice

narrowly miſſed loſing his life; for, in attempting to leap a ditch, his horſe threw him on the ground, where he was immediately ſurrounded by the enemy's dragoons, but an Engliſh ſquadron diſengaged him; and, as his aid-de-camp, Colonel Bringfield, held the ſtirrup for him to mount another horſe, the colonel had his head ſhot off by a cannon-ball, which at the ſame time ſtunned his grace. As ſoon however as he recovered, he continued his march to the left with 18 ſquadrons, in order to ſuſtain the Dutch horſe, while the corps de reſerve we mentioned before marched in one column to take the troops of the houſhold in flank; our ſquadrons, which were in cloſe order, took the advantage of the ſpaces between thoſe of the enemy, to penetrate their line, and attack them in flank, and, the corps de reſerve having in the mean time beat ſome ſquadrons of dragoons, which were forming in the valley of Tavieres, they came up ſo opportunely that the French were effectually ſurrounded. Upon this the enemy, began to give way, and fled ſoon after in the greateſt diſorder, becauſe the ſecond line, behind which they might have rallied, had already retired to the left. The allies, much about the ſame time, drove the enemy out of the village of Ramillies, and took from them ten pieces of cannon, and, a little after they quitted the village, entirely broke their infantry, and put them to flight.

The whole army of the enemy retired upon this, behind ſome thickets and a hollow road, where it again formed itſelf, while ours advanced between the Yauſe and the Mehaigne, ſo that it was five o'clock before they were drawn up in the plain. The Duke of Marlborough and the veldt-marſhal would have led them on to attack the enemy a ſecond time, had not their right retired, and their left begun to withdraw before we could reach them. About this time the French king's own regiment of foot, conſiſting of

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four battalions, retiring into the plain between Ramillies and Judoigne, where they had left their knapsacks, broke their ranks that they might the better take them up. A body of English horse observing this fell upon them so apropos, that this fine regiment, finding itself unable to make head, threw down its arms and surrendered to Hay's dragoons, a very few having time enough to retreat into the wood that was before them.

While the enemy's troops continued their retreat, an accident happened to them which augmented our victory. Some carriages belonging to the vanguard, breaking, stopped the baggage and artillery, which prevented the troops from defiling in order, and they, apprehending that our horse were just at their heels, quitted their ranks and threw down their arms, that they might the more readily make their escape. It was here that most of the prisoners were made; for in the action there was no quarter given; the reason of which, says the author of the Military History of the Duke of Marlborough was, "our horse being provoked by the ridiculous gasconades of the musquetaires and gendarmerie, of which they were very full at the beginning of the engagement."

The loss of the enemy amounted to 5,000 killed and wounded, and 6,000 made prisoners; about 200 officers were made prisoners, amongst whom were a lieutenant-general, two marshals-de-camp, the son of the Marshal Tallard, the Marquisses of Mezieres and Entragues, and the Count de Montmorency, nephew to the Duke of Luxemburg. There were 50 pieces of cannon taken, and 60 standards and colours; and, as the allies pursued them at their heels, the greatest part of the baggage fell into our hands also. In a word, never was victory more complete: we had but 350 horse killed and 70 wounded, 660 foot killed, and 1,600 wounded, so that our whole loss did not amount to 3,000 men. We had 80 officers killed, and

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amongſt them the Prince Lewis of Heſſe and M. de Bentinck. It may be juſtly ſaid that the Duke of Marlborough's conduct gave the victory to the allies; for he, perceiving the troops on the right could not act becauſe of a moraſs which ſeparated them from the left of the enemy, withdrew from thence the greateſt part of the horſe to reinforce the left wing, and brought up alſo his body of reſerve, ſo that the high idea conceived of the houſhold troops was the cauſe that the French loſt the battle; for on one ſide it hindered the French generals from reinforcing their right wing, and on the other it engaged the Duke of Marlborough to puſh with his utmoſt force a corps ſo renowned, a deſign which he effectually completed; for the houſhold troops were ſo thoroughly ſhattered here, that they could never be re-eſtabliſhed during the whole war. Velt-marſhal Auverquerque acquired the higheſt honour for his prudence and valour on this occaſion: he fought at the head of the Dutch troops of the left wing with unparallelled bravery, and continued on horſeback in purſuit of the enemy till one o'clock in the morning, when he narrowly miſſed loſing his life by the treachery of a Bavarian. This man, who was a captain of horſe, was taken priſoner by the velt-marſhal, who told him, as he was a gentleman, he might keep his ſword, which permiſſion the villain made uſe of to draw when the general's back was turned, and had infallibly run him through the body, if one Violet, a Frenchman, the marſhal's groom, had not ſhot him dead upon the ſpot.

The Elector of Bavaria and the Marſhal de Villeroy, with the remains of their army, fled with all imaginable precipitation to Louvain, where a tumultuous council of war was held by torch-light, in which it was reſolved to abandon all the great unfortified towns to the confederates, which was immediately put in execution. The elector ſpent the reſt of the night in packing up his jewels, plate, and furniture,

ture, which he ſent to Ghent with all imaginable expedition, and followed it himſelf ſoon after.

The victorious army continued its purſuit till two in the morning, and then reſted a little near Meldert, and at break of day the Duke of Marlborough gave orders for encamping at Beverchien, for the refreſhment of the troops, intending next morning to force the paſſage of the Deule; but the enemy ſpared him the trouble, by quitting their camp, abandoning Louvain, and leaving him at liberty to paſs the river and take up quarters as he pleaſed.

Louvain, which was the firſt place that fell into the hands of the confederates, is a large pleaſant city, ſeated on the river Deule, eleven miles ſouth eaſt of Mechlin, fifteen north-eaſt of Bruſſels, twenty-ſeven north of Namur, and thirty-eight north-eaſt of Mons. It is looked upon as the ſecond city in Brabant, and might for extent paſs for the firſt, ſince it is larger than Ghent, and has abundance of fine fields, pleaſant orchards, and agreeable gardens, within the walls, which are the ſtrongeſt in Flanders, adorned with fifty-three towers, and ſixteen drawbridges; here is alſo a famous univerſity conſiſting of forty-three colleges; but the buildings of the town are neither grand in themſelves, nor in good repair; there is however one of the fineſt ſtadt-houſes in the world, in which the Duke of Marlborough took up his quarters for ſome time.---On the 27th the Duke of Marlborough ſent his brother General Churchill to take poſſeſſion of Bruſſels, the capital of Brabant, and one of the fineſt cities in Europe, the ſeat of the Spaniſh governor of the low countries, adorned with the royal palace, to which belong noble gardens, parks, &c. there are in it ſeven principal ſtreets, as many great gates and principal churches. On the 28th his grace made his public entry into the city, with great ſtate, the magiſtrates preſenting him with the keys, which he returned with an aſſurance of her Britannic majeſty's protection;

protection; and, that all the Spaniſh provinces might be induced to follow the example of this city, the duke publiſhed an order for obliging his troops to keep exact diſcipline, that the people might perceive that they would be treated as friends, and not as enemies, in caſe they acknowledged King Charles III. for their ſovereign. In conſequence of this, the magiſtrates of Malines, or Mechlin, the capital of a ſmall ſeigneury of the ſame name, ſent their deputies to make their ſubmiſſion, and Colonel Durel was ſent with a detachment of 200 horſe to take poſſeſſion of the place, who made the French governor a priſoner. Mechlin is a well-built handſome town, in which there are ſeven pariſhes, each adorned with a ſtately church; its walls are ſtrong, its ditch good, and its ſituation in a large plain, which with great eaſe can at any time be put under water, makes it very defenſible, and conſequently its ſubmiſſion could not but be very grateful to the duke.---On the 29th Aloſt declared for King Charles III. and ſoon after the French abandoned Ghent. Ghent is the chief city of Flanders, commodiouſly ſituated on the banks of the rivers Schelde and Leye, which run through it and divide it into twenty-ſix iſlands, joined together by ninety-eight bridges. It is of a prodigious extent for a walled city, being not leſs than ſeven miles in compaſs; its buildings remarkably fair and ſtately; it had ſeven churches, and fifty-five religious houſes, alſo a noble palace containing 300 fine rooms. Its citadel has four baſtions, but, though regular, is far from being ſtrong, or fit to command or defend ſuch a place. The trade of Ghent conſiſts in corn, cloths, ſtuffs, and ſilks, which are ſo conſiderable that there are no leſs than fifty companies of tradeſmen.---The next day the little town of Oudenard ſurrendered. It ſtands ſixteen miles ſouth of Ghent, and is looked upon as one of the neateſt places in Flanders. A day or two after General Roſs, who had been detached with a body of horſe towards Bruges, ſent

advice that the city had ſurrendered, or rather ſubmitted to King Charles. Bruges is the ſecond city in Flanders, and receives its name from the great number of bridges which are therein; it is ſeated in a large plain eight miles from the ſea; its walls are about four miles in compaſs, and are tolerably ſtrong, being ſurrounded with an excellent ditch; there were at that time ſeven fine churches, ſixty religious houſes, and a fine college belonging to the jeſuits; it has ſix principal ſtreets terminating in as many fine gates; and, though much ſunk in reſpect of its ancient ſplendour, it is ſtill eſteemed one of the fineſt cities in the Low Countries.

The French king was ſo much alarmed at the news he received continually from the Netherlands, that he ſent M. Chamillard to the army to ſee whether things were really as they were repreſented, and to endeavour, if poſſible, to remedy it upon the ſpot; but the miniſter was as unable to reſtore his majeſty's affairs as his generals, and, inſtead of making things take a better turn, he had the mortification of beholding Antwerp, the laſt great city in the Spaniſh provinces, which remained ſubject to the two crowns, declare for the allies. Its garriſon conſiſted of ſix French and ſix Spaniſh battalions, under the command of the M. de Terracena; but that nobleman no ſooner ſaw the confederates poſſeſſed of the avenues of the place, than he gave notice to the French that he did not think it proper to expoſe the city to a ſiege, which might be very prejudicial to it, and could prove but of very little uſe, ſince they had no ſuccours to hope for, and were but indifferently provided for their defence. The French underſtood this ſo well, that they immediately made the beſt terms for themſelves they could. M. de Pontis, who commanded them, procured leave to march out of the place, and to be conducted to Landrecy; M. Terracena remaining governor for King Charles with the very ſame garriſon with which he had kept the citadel for King Philip. Antwerp was capital

pital of the marquiſate of the Holy Empire, the ſmalleſt province in the Netherlands, being but ſeven miles long and four broad. This city ſtands on the river Schelde, on the borders of Flanders, twenty-two miles north of Bruſſels and ſeventy-five ſouth of Amſterdam: It was heretofore one of the firſt cities in Europe, and is ſtill one of the fineſt cities in the Netherlands. It is near eight miles in circuit, its form being that of a bow, to which the river Schelde is the ſtring; its walls are the faireſt and ſtrongeſt in Europe, being 110 feet broad at the top, with five rows of trees regularly planted upon them; without they are faced with an excellent kind of ſtone, and have eight regular baſtions and thirteen noble gates, which open into as many ſtrait broad ſtreets adorned with the moſt regular buildings that are to be ſeen in Europe. On the ſouth ſide of the city ſtands one of the fineſt, ſtrongeſt, and moſt regular, citadels in the world, a mile in circumference; it is a pentagon compoſed of five royal baſtions, ſo well contrived that they command both the city and the country. It was formerly the greateſt mart and the firſt port in Europe, for which it ſeemed to have been deſigned by nature; its river admitting ſhips of the greateſt burden to lie cloſe to its banks. This was eſteemed the glorious crown of the Duke of Marlborough's conqueſts, all made within a fortnight after the battle of Ramillies.

The Duke of Marlborough took this opportunity of going to the Hague in order to concert with their High Mightineſſes the ſucceeding operations of the campaign, in order to make the moſt of that panic which had ſeized the enemy. After various conferences, the ſiege of Oſtend was at laſt reſolved on. Oſtend is one of the five ports of Flanders; it is ſeated on the ſea-ſhore in the midſt of a moraſs, through which there are channels which let in the ſea in ſuch a manner, that at high water the city ſeems to ſtand in the midſt of it. It was regularly fortified, and eſteemed

one of the ſtrongeſt towns in the Low Countries; its ſtreets are handſome, and well paved, and the moſt uniform that are any where to be ſeen, becauſe this place was built all at once; and, though their buildings are not high, yet their exact ſymmetry has a very happy effect. Its harbour is at once capacious and ſafe, and the French, till this ſiege was undertaken, fancied that it could not be blocked up. It ſtands nine miles north-eaſt of Nieuport, eleven weſt of Bruges, twenty-four north-eaſt of Dunkirk, and thirty-five almoſt weſt of Ghent. It is famous for having ſuſtained a ſiege of upwards of three years, with unparalleled reſolution: which ſiege was undertaken in the month of July 1601 by the Spaniſh army, during the government of the Arch-dukes Albert and Iſabella, and continued till September 1604; during which ſpace of time the Spaniards conſumed 250,000 bullets, and loſt 80,000 men. It was much ſtronger at this time, having ten good baſtions well paliſadoed, and large ditches filled with water from the ſea; yet Velt-marſhal Auverquerque reduced it under the obedience of King Charles after three days open trenches; for Count la Mothe, who commanded there, was conſtrained to capitulate by the towns-people, who had taken a reſolution to acknowledge that prince for their ſovereign. There were found in this town twenty-four colours and one ſtandard, fifty pieces of braſs cannon, forty of iron, and a great quantity of ammunition, and 300,000 weight of powder, and in the harbour there were found two men of war, one of eighty, the other of fifty, guns, and forty-five ſmall veſſels. The allies had not above 500 men killed and wounded in the ſiege.

Dendermonde being blocked up, it was reſolved next to beſiege Menin, that all Flanders might be reduced as ſoon as poſſible. Menin is one of the ſtrongeſt places in Flanders, well fortified, and capable of having all the country in its neighbourhood laid under water; it

it was looked upon as the key of the French conquests in the Netherlands, and Vauban had shewn his utmost skill in the works he had raised for its defence; it was extremely well provided, and had a garrison of 4326 effective men, exclusive of officers, these amounting to 574. On the twenty-fourth of August the two armies of the allies encamped in two lines, Auverquerque's quarters being but three leagues distance from those of the Duke of Marlborough. The same day General Salisch began to work on the lines of circumvallation, which were near three leagues in extent; he had before taken possession of the sluice of Commines, and had caused large cuts to be made there, to force the water of the Lis into another course, that the town ditches might be left dry. While the troops were employed in the siege, which the enemy's army seemed to have no inclination to interrupt, the Duke of Marlborough, accompanied by the deputies of the states, went to Brussels, in order to establish there a provisional council of state for the government of that province.

Before we return to the siege of Menin, it may not be amiss to acquaint the reader with an accident which shewed the generosity of the new French general, and the respect he had for the Duke of Marlborough. It happened on the 16th of July, that Brigadier Cadogan, going out of Courtray with a small body of horse to cover the foragers, was surprised by a superior body of the enemy's cavalry, and was carried prisoner into Tournay. On the 18th the Duke de Vendome sent him back with a compliment, importing that he would not detain a moment a person whom he knew to be so useful to his grace. The Duke of Marlborough immediately released Baron Palavicini, a major-general in the French service taken at the battle of Ramillies, by way of exchange.

It would be needless to tire the reader with a detail of a siege, in which there happened nothing remarkable

ble till the 18th of Auguſt, when, the ſaps on the right and left being carried as far as the ſalient angles of the counterſcarp, the neceſſary diſpoſitions were made for attacking it in the evening. The Duke of Marlborough was himſelf that day in the camp, and gave his orders for this extraordinary action. At ſeven o'clock the beſiegers ſprung two mines, one at each of the ſalient angles of the covered way, which had all the ſucceſs they could wiſh. The ſignal thus given, the men marched on with all imaginable alacrity, the grenadiers advancing to the very paliſades, and, throwing their grenades into the covered way, leaped in after them, and cut off all who oppoſed them. The enemy made a very gallant reſiſtance, and the firſt five battalions ſuffered exceſſively from the prodigious fire from the place; but the grenadiers at laſt drove the enemy out of the covered way, and made two lodgements cloſe to the paliſades. The enemy ſprung two mines during the attack; but they did but little harm; the fire however from the ravelins and other works did a great deal of execution, before the men could cover themſelves, inſomuch that this attack coſt the allies 1400 men killed and wounded. The generals and ſoldiers did wonders; and the Duke of Argyle particularly diſtinguiſhed himſelf in an extraordinary manner. The ſame night the beſieged made ſeveral ſignals of diſtreſs, which were anſwered from all the neighbouring places, which ſerved only to let the confederate generals know how low they were reduced; for, as to the French army, it did not make the leaſt motion to relieve them. The 20th of Auguſt, the Duke of Marlborough going to the camp to ſee how the ſiege advanced, the governor beat the chamade, hoſtages were exchanged about nine in the morning, and the capitulation was concluded. The garriſon, conſiſting 4300 men, marched out, with all the uſual marks of honour. There were found in the place fifty-five pieces of braſs cannon, ten iron cannon, ſix mortars, 810 double barrels of powder,

387 double barrels of ball, with a vaſt quantity of proviſions of all ſorts. Among the artillery were four pieces marked with the arms of England, which had been taken at the fatal battle of Landen. Theſe the Duke of Marlborough ordered to be ſent to England, and directed the fortifications to be repaired.

The Duke of Marlborough determined to reduce Dendermonde next, which had been blocked up ever ſince the battle of Ramillies. Dendermonde is a ſtrong town in Flanders, on the rivers Schelde and Dender, from the latter of which it receives its name. It is twelve miles eaſt of Ghent, fourteen ſouth-weſt of Antwerp, and ſeventeen north-weſt of Bruſſels. General Churchill, brother to the duke, was charged with this enterpriſe, which was very ſoon finiſhed; for, having beat the enemy from an advanced redoubt, the M. de la Valle the governor cauſed the chamade to be beat, but the general refuſed to grant them any capitulation, aſſuring him at the ſame time, that if he did not ſurrender they would put him and his garriſon to the ſword. After ſome deliberation the town ſurrendered. Thus in ſeven days time the allies reduced a place ſtrongly ſituated among the moraſſes, which had formerly baffled a French army commanded by the king in perſon; its garriſon conſiſted of two French regiments of foot, a Spaniſh battalion, 700 men drawn out of ſeveral regiments, and 200 diſmounted dragoons.

Brigadier Wertmuller, who commanded in Courtray, joined the allied army with his garriſon on the ninth, where it paſſed the Schelde, in order to beſiege Aeth, the reduction of which town it was intended ſhould finiſh the glorious campaign. Aeth is a ſtrong town in Hainault, ſeated on the Dender at the place where the rivulet of Cambron diſcharges itſelf into that river. Its fortifications were regular, and not only ſo, but in very good repair. The French took it in the year 1697. M. de Spinola was at this time governor, and the

Brigadier

Brigadier de St. Pierre commanded the troops, which consisted of about 2000 men. The enemy had all the time they could desire to provide for the siege, which in all probability was been a long one, if the garrison had been strong. M. d'Auverquerque commanded the siege, which had begun the 16th of September; and the Duke of Marlborough encamped at Gramez, in order to cover the siege. As Aeth was only three leagues and a half from Mons, five from Tournay, and as many from Condé, the Duke of Vendome decamped on the 15th of September, and marched to Leuza, where he covered all the three places last mentioned, his army being very numerous, tho' he had made several detachments. The trenches were opened before Aeth on the 22d, with very little loss, which was owing to a stratagem of M. d'Auverquerque; he caused a feint to be made of opening them on the north side, where the Marquis de Catinat had formerly attacked it, and where the breaches were but indifferently repaired. This drew the attention of the besieged on that side, while the trenches were actually opened on the south, the besiegers having discovered a more convenient place than on the north, and, before they were perceived, the workmen were under cover; the attack was pushed on with such vigour, that, in spite of a very bad season, the governor was constrained on the first of October to beat the chamade; it was with great difficulty he was brought to render himself and his garrison prisoners of war, though it appeared, on its marching out, that it was reduced to 800 men; so that he had been obliged to abandon several posts for want of men. M. d'Auverquerque, to testify his esteem for men who had behaved so gallantly, allowed the officers their swords, and the private men their knapsacks; he likewise gave Prince Spinola, Brigadier de St. Pierre, and two French colonels, leave to go to Paris for six weeks. The Baron de Pallandt was left with a good garrison in the place,

and General Murray was sent with thirteen battalions to fortify Courtray.

The Duke of Marlborough continued all this time encamped at Gramez. The Duke de Vendome looked on with the same tranquillity as he had done at the siege and taking of Menin; he sent however reinforcements to Mons and Charleroy, being apprehensive that the allies would still think of forming another siege this year; but his grace the Duke of Marlborough observing the season very bad, and knowing that the troops were very much fatigued, resolved to do nothing further; and therefore leaving the army on the 27th of October, under the command of M. d'Auverquerque, he set out for Brussels: his entry there was prodigiously magnificent. On the 5th of November he set out for the Hague, and on the sixth the army separated and went into winter quarters.

We must now go back to speak of the campaign in Italy; for this year was full of grand events on every side, and all these events were favourable to the allies, who were superior to the enemy in all places, and drove the French quite out of Italy. The court of France however had formed grand projects. The Marshal de Villars, who commanded upon the Rhine, was to assemble an army on the Moselle, to be put under the command of Marshal Marsin; they were to drive the Imperialists from their lines, and to oblige them afterwards to raise the blockade of fort Louis, after which Marsin was to come time enough into the Netherlands to assist the Elector of Bavaria and the Marshal de Villeroy to beat the Duke of Marlborough, before he was in a condition to undertake any thing. They were likewise to have driven King Charles out of Catalonia, and to have re-taken Barcelona; and in fine, the Duke de Vendome was to attack Prince Eugene in his quarters in the Bressan, to have forced him into the Trentine, and there to have held him at bay while the Duke de la Feuillade made the siege of Turin, an

enterprize for which all things were already got together in Piedmont. The more important these projects were, and the more wise and prudent the measures taken for putting them into execution, so much the greater surely must the glory be of those who totally defeated them, and obtained such advantages on every hand.

The Duke of Marlborough, in his negociations at Vienna, had set the conduct of the Duke of Savoy in its proper light, insisting warmly on the intrepidity and steadiness he had shewn in defending every foot of his country against the French, and in refusing to desert the allies, even after he had almost totally lost it. By these representations he procured proper steps to be taken for supporting that prince this campaign, by sending into Italy two detachments from the grand army, one consisting of 4000 men of the troops of the elector Palatine, the other of 10,000 Hessians; he likewise prevailed on the King of Prussia to continue in Italy 8000 of his troops for another year, to send them recruits, and even three new battalions in the room of some regiments of horse which were recalled. To these steps, which were not only advised but very warmly pressed by the Duke of Marlborough, the success of Prince Eugene was wholly owing; for if any of them had been omitted, especially if the Hessians had not been sent, who but for the duke had been recalled even after they were on their march, his highness had never been able to have fought the battle of Turin, which was coup d'eclat on that side, and broke effectually all the French measures.

Prince Eugene having regulated at Vienna the operations of the campaign, went to join the Imperial troops in the Bressan, where they were quartered, under the command of General Reventlau; but his highness did not arrive till after an action had happened at Montechiaro; for, the Duke de Vendome, resolving not to let slip the advantage he had from the weakness of the

the allies and the abſence of Prince Eugene, attacked the Imperialiſts at Montechiaro, and afterwards on the ſide of Calcinato. The action was very briſk for ſome hours, the Imperialiſts making the firſt diſcharge, and defending themſelves with the utmoſt courage and reſolution; they had even ſome advantage over the enemy, having repulſed them two or three times; but in the end they were obliged to yield to numbers, and, abandoning theſe two poſts, retired to Gavardo, where they had placed their heavy artillery: they loſt ſix field pieces, about 1500 men, and ſome colours. The Duke de Vendome however did not think fit to purſue the Imperialiſts to Gavardo; and, when Prince Eugene arrived in the army, not long after, he found it ſtrong enough to prevent the Duke de Vendome from cutting off his communication with the Trentine, though he had endeavoured it by all means poſſible.

In this ſituation of things, his moſt Chriſtian majeſty thought proper to recall the Duke de Vendome, in order to put him at the head of his armies in Flanders; and ſent in his room the Duke of Orleans into Italy, to gratify the earneſt deſire of that prince, who had for a long time wiſhed to be at the head of an army; Villars was named to ſerve under the Duke of Orleans, but, on his entreating the king to leave him in Alſace, Marſhal Marſin was ſent in his ſtead.

The ſiege of Turin having been reſolved upon the year before, as has been obſerved, the Duke de la Feuillade had taken the poſts before the citadel, and had drawn his lines with an intent to attack the place on the ſide on which it afterwards was attacked; but, finding the troops in no condition to execute ſo great an enterpriſe at that time, it had been referred to the beginning of this campaign. The Duke of Savoy, who foreſaw, from theſe ſteps, that they intended to beſiege the citadel, and who was well acquainted with the front they had made choice of, took proper meaſures to render it ſuch as they found it during the ſiege;

that is to say, he covered those works which were most exposed to their shots, with good counter-guards, which did not discover above two feet of parapet. He also caused several new works to be raised on the mountain of the Capuchins. He went himself in the month of March to visit Asti and Coni, and caused some houses and trees to be destroyed in the neighbourhood of Turin, in order to prevent the enemy's making use of them in their approaches.

All things necessary being got together, the Duke de la Feuillade assembled his army on the 12th of May, in the neighbourhood of Chivas, and from thence advanced towards Turin. The cavalry of the Duke of Savoy retired on his approach, and passed the Doria, breaking down the bridge behind them. The Duke de la Feuillade having passed the Sture, at the head of his army, went and took up his quarters the same day at la Venerie, a pleasure-house belonging to his royal highness.

The siege lasted till the 7th of September following.---On the 8th of June, the Duke de la Feuillade sent a quarter-master, with a message to the Duke of Savoy, to let his royal highness know that he had received orders from the king his master to pursue vigorously the siege of Turin, and that he had likewise charged him to enquire where the duke's quarters were, in order to prevent their being fired upon; and also to offer passports to the princesses, that they might retire out of the place wherever they thought fit. An answer full of modest resolution was returned to this menacing compliment: the quarter-master was told, that the duke's quarters were the whole city, and the citadel also in a particular manner, and that the gate of the Po was yet open for his royal highness to withdraw, when he saw proper; nevertheless he returned his majesty thanks for his offers.

Between the 8th and 9th the enemy's works drew by little and little so near as to be within musquet-shot; it was

was towards evening when the enemy began to throw ſome bombs into the citadel; but next day, having got ready a battery of fifteen mortars, they threw a great number into the body of the place, and into the outworks. The governor's houſe was beaten down, and the fire took the barracks. Between the 9th and 10th, all who inhabited the old town were obliged to deſert it, and ſeek ſhelter on the other ſide of the caſtle, whither the bombs could not reach; for on this ſide there fell many of ſuch prodigious weight, that they broke through the floors and vaults, ſhattered the houſes all to pieces, without ſparing ſo much as the principal churches, where they penetrated to the very tombs, and ſcattered the aſhes of the dead. Between the 15th and 16th the beſieged made two ſallies one after another, with ſome ſucceſs; and the beſiegers opened two new trenches, one towards the attack of the citadel, and the other before the face of the bonnet which was juſt finiſhed at the gate of Suza. All the troops were now commanded to retire into the mountain, to ſecure the important poſts there. There were only eight battalions left in the town and ſuburbs, with a detachment of 800 men who were poſted in the citadel. Things being in this ſituation, his royal highneſs reſolved to ſend the court out of the town; and on the 17th of June the Duke of Savoy himſelf retired from Turin, leaving Count Dauhn and the Marquis de Carail to command in his abſence. The duke eluded the purſuit of the Duke de la Feuillade; and, being come to Cervaſque, retired from thence into the neighbourhood of Saluſſe, where he received a letter from Prince Eugene, promiſing that he would immediately put his troops in motion, in order to enter Piedmont with a powerful army.

The ſiege of Turin ſtill continued, Count Dauhn and M. Carail acting with the greateſt zeal and unanimity in defence of the place.—In the mean time the beſieged heard, with great ſatisfaction, that a body of

of troops detached by the Duke de la Feuillade, and commanded by M. Aubeterre, had been beaten near Saluſſe by his royal highneſs the Duke of Savoy. That prince, having advice that the enemy advanced towards him, without delay went to join the grand guards poſted at the avenues from Saluſſe. As ſoon as the enemy appeared in ſight, he began to ſkirmiſh with them, and continued ſo to do for about three hours. He then ſent orders to Prince Eugene's regiment of dragoons to remain in the ſuburb of St. Auſtin, and to the reſt of his cavalry to paſs the Po. The grand guards, reinforced by the piquets, after having briſkly charged the enemy, retired continually, but within piſtol-ſhot, and in good order, till they arrived near the ſuburb of St. Auſtin, where, finding Prince Eugene's regiment of dragoons, they joined them. This rear-guard, compoſed of 600 horſe, were followed to the brinks of the Po by the enemy, who were ſuperior in number. His royal highneſs being got into the middle of the water, conſidered that, in order to hinder the enemy's traverſing his march croſs the plain, there was a neceſſity of beating them now. Upon this, ſuddenly facing about and drawing his ſword, he put himſelf at the head of his ſquadrons, charging the enemy with ſuch vigour, that after a great ſlaughter he purſued them to the very walls of Saluſſe. After this action he joined his cavalry who had halted on the other ſide the Po, and, marching to Bubiano, fixed on a ſecure camp there. The enemy loſt 700 men in this action; on the ſide of the duke, there were ſeventy private men and ſeven or eight officers killed and wounded.---The beſieged moreover were kept in good ſpirits by continually hearing of the rapid ſucceſſes of the Duke of Marlborough in Flanders and Brabant; and by the expectation that Prince Eugene would ſoon arrive to their relief.---In the night of the 13th of July there happened a very briſk fight under ground. The enemy were near a gallery which was

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on a level with the ditch towards the ſortant angle of the half-moon of ſuccours: they were about to break into it, when a miner belonging to the beſieged applied a petard in the place where they were at work, and by its operation their miner was cruſhed to pieces. This petard opened a large hole, by which the enemy let down one of their grenadiers with a cord, who was piſtolled as ſoon as he appeared. The enemy, enraged by this, gave abundance of ill language and threatenings: "Bring hither," cried they, "bombs and carcaſſes, that we may either ſtifle or burn theſe wretches." By this time ſome of the grenadiers were come to ſuſtain the retrenchment; four of them were commanded to attack; they obeyed, though with reluctance, and were all killed in the attempt. At laſt they let down a man armed from head to foot; he opened the way to a great many ſoldiers, who immediately threw themſelves down after him on ſacks of earth: being entered, both ſides began to fire, and the diſcharges of piſtols, fuſils, and grenades, rendered this pit the moſt dreadful place in the world. The fight had laſted much longer, if the ſmoke, ſtink, and darkneſs, had not allayed its fury. But, to complete the enemy's misfortunes, our miners ſet fire to a ſauciſſe, whereby two mines were ſprung, which overturned their battery ſo effectually, that their tools and miners, cannon and canoniers, ſunk all together, and were entirely covered with earth.

Two attacks were made on the night of the 26th, an account of which we ſhall give in the words of a perſon who was in Turin during the whole ſiege: "Between the 26th and 27th, we heard about one o'clock in the morning a diſcharge of five pieces of cannon, which we could not but take for the ſignal of an attack, ſince the enemy were not wont to fire in the night. This diſcharge was followed by a ſhower of twenty bombs, and by a vaſt quantity of ſtones and of drake-ſhot. The enemy at the ſame time ruſhed out of their

trenches, animating one another to the aſſault with loud cries. They approached with ſcaling ladders and a vaſt quantity of faſcines, endeavouring to climb to the point of the half-moon and the counter-guards, which ſeemed to us ſo little acceſſible, that we contented ourſelves with leaving there the ordinary number of men, which were however not able to hinder them from effecting it; after which they began to make a lodgement on the half-moon with ſacks of wool. Our ſoldiers who guarded the half-moon retired into the ditch of the lunette, and preſerved as yet the traverſes to the right and left. Theſe, as ſoon as our grenadiers arrived, came out of the traverſes and joined them, in order to fall all together upon the enemy with fixed bayonets and ſword in hand; they drove the enemy into the ditch, where they were ſaluted with a ſhower of our grenades, though we at the ſame time felt the weight of their bombs. However the aſſailants rallied, and, being reinforced with freſh troops, they returned with more fury than ever to the aſſault of the half-moon. They brought gabions, that they might mount it with more ſecurity, and ranged them on both ſides the whole length of the beach, from the foot of the ditch to the point of the half-moon. We from above threw down grenades and ſacks of powder, and the light all round was ſo great, that we perfectly diſcerned the enemy from the embraſures of the flanks and face of our baſtions, ſo that our artillery, loaded with cartridge-ſhot, raked them on both ſides the whole length of the ditch. We threw alſo fire-balls into the ditch, which rendered it as light as at noon, ſo that we fired upon them from beneath, from above, and in flank: for their gabions, which they had not time to place properly, were eaſily overturned by our cannon-ſhot. Such was the carnage we made, that, notwithſtanding the joy we conceived at repulſing them, yet we could not help pitying their condition. Thoſe on the brink of the half-moon were cut to pieces, thoſe who

who got upon the works were almoſt all knocked on the head, and thoſe who ſuſtained them were beaten to pieces in the ditch. This diſmal ſcene was finiſhed by another ſtill more diſmal: the vaſt pile at the head of the beach, of gaudrons, fireballs, ſacks of powder, grenades, and bombs, all of a ſudden took fire. What a turn was this! moſt of our ſoldiers periſhed in a moment, and abundance of brave officers with them; the half-moon ſeemed one great fire, the flame and the ſmoke reached the clouds; grenades and bombs were every where burſting; the ſudden burſt of light and the prodigious clap that followed it, ſtunned the defendants, aſtoniſhed the aſſailants, and ſtruck both parties with fear. We were obliged at laſt to abandon a poſt which the enemy could never otherwiſe have taken. For a while all things were in ſuſpence, but after a time thoſe who were poſted in the ſhoulder of the faces of the half-moon at the breach and in the traverſes began again to fire. The enemy bent all their endeavours to make a lodgment on the broadeſt part of the parapet at the point of the counter-guards, while we remained within the traverſes. We continued to fire upon them briſkly all night, with a full reſolution to attack and drive them out of the counter-guards as ſoon as it was day. After our grenadiers had refreſhed themſelves a little, we prepared for the aſſault between nine and ten in the morning. On the ſignals of three bombs, our grenadiers ruſhed out at once upon the enemy by the parapet of the counter-guards, and by the ditch, charging them ſo briſkly that in a moment they drove them out of the counter-guards and out of a gallery which they had begun in the ditch. We made all imaginable haſte to ruin their lodgments, for we ſaw marching towards us, on all ſides, the troops which were in their trenches, ſupported by a great many battalions, with drums beating and colous flying; but the terrible fire which we made, rather than the regret of paſſing over the bodies of

their dead men, and treading out the laſt breath of thoſe who were dying, obliged them to deſiſt from their enterpriſe. Theſe two actions, of which the firſt laſted five hours, were the briſkeſt that can ever happen in a ſiege. We loſt 400 men, and about thirty officers either killed or burnt, among whom ſome were perſons of great diſtinction, on account of their birth and of their valour. The reſt of the day was employed in repairing the counter-guard of the half-moon, in which, for its better defence, we planted two ſmall pieces of cannon. Deſerters aſſured us, that on this occaſion we killed the enemy more than 1000 grenadiers and a like number of other ſoldiers. The Duke de la Feuillade had written to the king his maſter, two hours before, that a lodgment was made on the counter-guards; then he took the road of Chivas, in order to carry the Duke of Orleans this news, but he was ſoon overtaken with advice that we had repoſſeſſed ourſelves of the counter-guards. How much ſoever he might be diſpleaſed with this news, it hindered not his going on to the Duke of Orleans, and telling him the ſame tale he had written his moſt Chriſtian majeſty."

Between the 28th and 29th, at the ſhutting in of night, the beſieged heaped up in the ditch a vaſt quantity of bruſh-wood and faggots, which, when lighted, the violence of the fire penetrated ſo far that it burnt ſome galleries that the enemy had begun in the ditch. A bomb alſo fell into a magazine belonging to the French; and the grenades and bombs which were piled up there blew up with a tremendous noiſe, carrying with it the arms, hats, clothes of the ſoldiers, and every thing that that lay in its way: the cartridges deſigned for the cannon, and the vaſt heaps of paper of which thoſe cartridges are made, were alſo blown up, and, tearing all to pieces in the air, preſented as they fell, through a very thick ſmoke, the reſemblance of a mighty ſhower of ſnow in the midſt of ſummer.

Count

Count Dhaun, who happened to be on the counterſcarp of St. Maurice, was tranſported with joy at this ſcene; he gave money amongſt the bombardiers, and held out a letter from Prince Eugene in his hand, wherein he informed him that he would by the 29th of this month, at fartheſt, be at Nice, and that he would march night and day to come to their aſſiſtance. On the 29th, about midnight, four of the enemy's grenadiers, all in armour, got ſecretly into the ditch of the half-moon, paſſed the counterſcarp, and reached the door of the gallery which leads into the place; theſe were however immediately knocked down, as were three others who followed them; but, being ſeconded by ten or twelve more, would have entered pell-mell the grand gallery; but one of our miners, with the man that was with him, took a reſolution to ſhut the door againſt them, which was at the mouth of the ſtair-caſe by which they went down from the upper gallery to the lower. This miner, hearing them attempting to break the door open with hatchets, preſſed his companion to lay the train to the ſauciſſe; and being more impatient than the other, "*Get you gone*," ſaid he, taking him by the arm, "*leave me to do it, ſave thyſelf*;" then; applying the match too near the end of the ſauciſſe, it took fire, ſprung the mine, leaving the poor man too little time to eſcape, for he was found dead about forty paces from the ſtair-caſe, by which he had run down.

Thus we have given ſome of the moſt remarkable incidents of this long and memorable ſiege. We are now approaching to the point (the 7th of September) which was to decide the fate of the famous city of Turin, which from the 26th of May, the day whereon the trenches were opened, had ſuſtained a ſharp ſiege to this time. But how ſhall we repreſent the mighty pains it coſt to defend it? Who would not be aſtoniſhed at the multitude of prodigious works raiſed before the town in ſo ſhort a time, the works added to them af-

terwards, the posts fortified on the mountain, the pits sunk, and the galleries carried every where under ground? Such as have viewed all these, and have considered them strictly, can hardly help thinking they were raised by miracle; those who have only heard of them will never be able to form an idea adequate to the state of things there. To assist his imagination a little, we ought to throw before his eyes the infinite number of tools necessary in a siege, palisades, planks, gabions, sacks of earth, in such quantity, that the citadel would not have been able to have contained them, had they been brought thither all at once; for under the article only of repairing the fortifications there was spent near 2,000,000 of fascines. It would be incredible should we make a calculation of the powder spent in the discharges of small arms, filling grenades, making all sorts of fire-works, besides what was consumed by the artillery, mortars and mines. The besieged threw 6000 bombs, made 75,000 general discharges of cannon, and threw near 8000 stones from their mortars, without reckoning what was made use of in the mines great and small. In a word, all the dominions of his highness contributed to the defence of his capital, the provinces spared men, such as were possessed of effects contributed out of them, and the rich opened their coffers to supply the necessities induced by the siege: in fine, all ranks and degrees of people did their duty, and the soldiery in a particular manner, new-listed men behaving like veterans, and every soldier like a picked grenadier. Yet must it not be supposed that this garrison suffered nothing in so long a siege: on the contrary, desertion, sickness, wounds, and men killed outright, diminished it by above 5000, and amongst these 150 officers, many of whom were of the most illustrious families.

The army of the Imperialists under Prince Eugene, by long and painful marches, arrived to the succour of Turin the first week in September. The prince, having

having joined the Duke of Savoy, reſolved to attack the enemy. The Duke of Orleans, and the Marſhal de Marſin, who commanded the French army, had ſtrongly fortified themſelves with entrenchments, which extended all the way between the Doria and the Stura, at the junction of which rivers the city of Turin ſtands. Though the enemy had made little impreſſion on the works, yet the garriſon began to be in great danger, through the want of ammunition. This was what determined the prince to come to immediate action. As ſoon as the ſun roſe in the morning of the 7th, the Imperialiſts were drawn up in the plain. They marched directly towards the French lines. The Duke of Savoy and Prince Eugene led them on. The right was commanded by the Prince of Saxe Gotha, who had under him the Counts Kinigſeck, Harrach, and Bonneval; Prince Alexander of Wirtemberg commanded the left; the Prince of Anhalt Deſſau, with the Pruſſian troops, were poſted at the extremity of this wing; the centre was commanded by Lieutenant velt-marſhal Rebinder; and the Baron Krichbaum commanded the horſe; the body of reſerve being committed to the Marquis of Langallerie. The whole marched in columns: of theſe the infantry compoſed eight, four in the firſt line, and four in the ſecond; the cavalry followed in the ſame order. All the grenadiers of the army detached from their reſpective regiments formed ſix corps: by theſe the attack was begun: the artillery was placed between the columns of foot, with every thing belonging to it.

As ſoon as they were got as high as the village of Alteſſan, the lines began to form. The cavalry was alſo drawn up in order, ſufficient intervals being left between the battalions for the ſquadrons to paſs if there ſhould be occaſion. The grenadiers advanced at the head of the lines, and in this order they continued to march till they were within half a cannon-ſhot of the retrenchments; from whence the enemy ceaſed

not firing impetuouſly on our troops. We anſwered them on our ſide firſt with fifteen pieces on the left, and afterwards with all we had. On this ſignal, Count Dhaun, governor of Turin, knowing that we were engaged, ordered the twelve battalions to ſally from the gate of the palace. While the cannonading laſted, the Imperialiſts ſuffered very much. Their ſhot reached no farther than the parapets, and did no execution; while the enemy's flew directly into the lines; this made the ſoldiers impatient to come to cloſe quarters, and was the cauſe that they were permitted to begin the attack a little ſooner than was intended.

The Pruſſian infantry, under the command of the Prince of Anhalt, charged firſt on the right. Their behaviour was very fierce and ſoldier-like, for they advanced reſolutely and in good order to the very foot of the intrenchment, but there they ſuffered ſome diſorder. On this the brigade of Wirtemberg was ordered to advance with all poſſible diligence on the right of the left, being compoſed of five Imperial regiments. The Palatine troops under General Rebinder being in the centre, and the Prince of Saxe Gotha on the right of all with his own troops, ſome Dutch and Auſtrians. The fire became general then along the line; and it was very briſk on both ſides for ſomewhat more than half an hour, during which the combatants ſeemed to be ſeparated by a cloud of ſmoke and ſulphur, which hindered them from advancing to each other. Prince Eugene, impatient of delay, advanced with his horſe to the ſide of the Pruſſians; then putting himſelf at their head, together with the Prince of Anhalt, he led them up directly to the retrenchments; the troops followed with great cheerfulneſs and alacrity, proud of the preference that was given them, and reſolute in ſhewing how well they deſerved the honour that was done them on this occaſion. In vain did the French diſcharge on them a ſhower of bullets and grenades, they paſſed the ditch, mounted the retrenchment, and took

took poſt there. Prince Eugene expoſed himſelf in the midſt of this great fire as much as any private man. One of his pages and another of his domeſtics were killed behind him; he himſelf had a fall from his horſe. The ſoldiers were much concerned to ſee him down, but he immediately revived them by riſing briſkly and making a ſign with his hat that he had received no wound. He was immediately remounted, after which he led on the troops as before.

The Prince of Wirtemberg in the mean time advanced alſo with the five Imperial regiments under his command; he forced the retrenchment, and demoliſhed that part of it through which he entered, in order to facilitate the paſſage of the cavalry. In the centre the Baron de Bruder with his troops fell in upon the enemy; the Palatine troops exerted themſelves to the utmoſt, in order to mount the retrenchment, and the enemy on the other hand did all they could to hinder them; this produced great ſlaughter on both ſides; at laſt they carried it, and got on the other ſide; his royal highneſs of Savoy paſſed with them, and they immediately levelled the retrenchment, in which they took poſt.

The Prince of Saxe Gotha on the right had not as yet puſhed the enemy from their poſt, becauſe they were ſtronger there than in any other place; being in poſſeſſion of the caſtle of Lucengue, from whence they made a terrible fire, without being expoſed. The attack laſted more than an hour and a half; and in the mean time the cavalry in their centre, taking the advantage of our having levelled their lines, forced one of thoſe paſſages, penetrated into the Imperial camp, and attempted to attack the Saxon infantry in flank; they were repulſed however by the horſe, who charged them very briſkly, and when they were once broke they carried in their retreat fear and confuſion amongſt their own party. The Prince of Saxe Gotha then forced the retrenchment, in ſpite of all the fire of the caſtle

of

of Lucengue.---Victory began now to declare herſelf. The retrenchment was forced on all hands, and the Imperial cavalry had taken poſt therein. The enemy however rallied on their right, and formed a line, having none to oppoſe them but cavalry, and before them a large and ſpacious field. When the infantry of the ſecond line with the cannon were come up, a new action followed, and in conſequence thereof a new victory. The enemy was every where obliged to fly in ſeparate bodies. When they found all was loſt, they took all of a ſudden a reſolution to abandon their camp, and retired thereupon with the utmoſt precipitation; they forgot not however to ſet fire to their magazines. The moſt conſiderable of theſe was that in the church of Podeſtra, which blew up about ſix in the evening, the exploſion of which ſhook all the houſes in the town. This magazine in blowing up ſet fire to ſeveral others in the neighbourhood, ſo that this quarter was entirely deſtroyed, over-turned, and burnt. An accident much reſembling this deſtroyed Marſhal Marſin, who, having been dangerouſly wounded in the action, was carried into a poor houſe at a ſmall diſtance from the field of battle, to which place Prince Eugene ſent him a guard, as he deſired, and he afterwards began to dictate letters for the court of France, but he had not time to make an end of them. Some powder thereabouts took fire, and filled the little houſe he was in ſo full of thick ſmoke that he was ſtifled; he is reported to have ſaid when dying, that, if any thing could conſole him for the loſs of life, it was not his ſurviving the glory of his maſter's arms.

Marſhal Marſin was the only man of rank killed in this engagement on the ſide of the French, but there were ſeveral of note wounded, and among them the Duke of Orleans himſelf; the priſoners amounted to upwards of 6000 men, and of theſe upwards of 300 were officers. The number of the ſlain was not ſuppoſed to exceed 2000 men, without including however

ever such as were drowned in the Po or the Doria, nor those who died afterwards of their wounds. On the side of the Imperialists there fell fifteen hundred men, amongst whom was the Prince of Brunswick Beveren.

The Duke of Savoy and Prince Eugene in the mean time took a view of the enemy's lines, and gave the orders necessary on such an occasion for securing the magazines and ammunition, for encamping the troops, and for preventing that licentiousness and disorder which an army generally falls into when it comes to pillage. They employed to this end two or three hours: after this they entered the city through an innumerable croud of people, and went to the cathedral. The archbishop clad in his pontifical robes, and followed by his clergy, received them at the gate, and conducted them to the choir, where Te Deum was sung to return thanks for the glorious victory of that day, and the happy deliverance of the city, which was the first-fruits thereof. The last powder in the place was fired away in salvos to this Te Deum: this was now known, because Count Dhaun did not think fit longer to conceal it, but till then nobody knew it. It was believed indeed they had not much, and they were afraid of wanting in case the siege continued much longer, so that here was a new subject of thankfulness to God for so happy a deliverance, and for acknowledging of his goodness in sending such powerful succours, and in so critical a time; for in short had they come eight days later Turin had been taken, and the Duke of Savoy entirely ruined. After divine service was over, the princes went to sup at Count Dhaun's, where they were treated in a much more magnificent manner than could have been well expected in a city besieged four months; however there was nothing very extraordinary in this, since there was provision enough found in the enemy's camp, not only to furnish this, but a great many other tables.

Great quantities of valuable things were found in the camp before Turin, in the head quarters at Lucengue, at the old park, on the mountain, &c. for it is chiefly in ſieges that the French generals make a diſplay of their riches, and here they carried off nothing but their perſons. Their tents, equipages, horſes, mules, cattle, plate, linen, and clothes, all fell a prey to the ſoldiers, the townſmen, and peaſants. The artillery which was taken in the camp, on the batteries, and in the field of battle, amounted to 164 pieces of cannon and fifty-ſix mortars; bombs, grenades, tools and engines of war neceſſary in mines and in batteries, were found in vaſt heaps at the batteries and in the magazines.

The glory of this victory was every way complete, and ſurpaſſed the very hopes of the well-wiſhers to the houſe of Auſtria, ſince it delivered Turin, cleared his royal highneſs of Savoy's dominions, and in fine all Italy, from the terror of the French armies. Thus ended an undertaking which coſt France more than any other enterpriſe during the war. If the conduct of the French was wrong before Turin, the meaſures taken after the battle were yet more ſo; the retreat of the Duke of Orleans towards Pignerol was the ruin of the French affairs in Italy, and a ſtep ſo irrecoverably falſe, that it only ſerved to expoſe him the more, when he confeſſed it by endeavouring to make his army re-enter Piedmont, though all his endeavours proved abortive, for the Duke of Savoy and Prince Eugene were as vigilant and active as the French generals had been remiſs.

The Duke of Savoy let not a moment ſlip after the glorious victory he had obtained, but applied himſelf immediately to the driving the French troops out of Piedmont, the Milaneze, the Cremoneze, the Mantuan, and the duchy of Modena. The Baron de Krichbaum falling ſick, his command was given to Count Konigſec, who took poſſeſſion of Chivas,

wherein he found twelve pieces of cannon and a great quantity of ammunition, the garriſon conſiſting of 1500 men, who were made priſoners of war.

On the 19th Novara was inveſted; its garriſon conſiſted of a detachment of 200 Italian foot, 300 Swiſs, and 150 Spaniards. On the 20th the Duke of Savoy and Prince Eugene arrived in the camp before that place; the garriſon demanded immediately to capitulate, but could only obtain leave to march out without cannon or other marks of honour. This was a very important poſt, and therefore the Imperialiſts made it afterwards a place of arms, and eſtabliſhed a magazine there, General Zumzungen being left therein with his own regiment and fifty horſe. On the 21ſt the garriſon of Creſcentin ſurrendered at diſcretion, and the fort of Bar was likewiſe ſurrendered.

On the 24th his royal highneſs advanced to Corſino, where he was met by the deputies of the magiſtrates of the town of Milan, who made their ſubmiſſion to him. The duke then propoſed terms to the Marquis de la Florida, who commanded in the caſtle; but that officer, who had been already in twenty-four ſieges, thanked his royal highneſs, and gave him for anſwer, That he would neither accept theſe nor any other. The ſiege of the citadel was then turned into a blockade, and it held out till the treaty for the neutrality of Italy was ſigned. In the mean time Count Dhaun cauſed Pavia to be inveſted, its garriſon conſiſting of two battalions of foot and a regiment of horſe: they were diſpoſed to make a very gallant reſiſtance, but on a ſudden the townſmen mutinied, took up arms, and obliged them to capitulate. They marched out therefore on the 1ſt of October with ſix pieces of cannon, and all other marks of honour. Count Dhaun found here 3000 ſacks of meal, a fine train of artillery, and a large quantity of ammunition.

On the 3d the army marched to Caſtione, between Lodi and Pizzighitone, and the Duke of Savoy im-

mediately resolved upon besieging the last-mentioned place, while Prince Eugene besieged Tortona: the former of these places held out three weeks; the commander obtained leave to retire with all his troops to Cremona, with their arms, baggage, four pieces of cannon, and all other marks of honour. Prince Eugene having taken Tortona, and left a detachment to besiege the castle, passed the Bormio on the 16th with the rest of his army, in order to besiege Alexandria, which had been invested by the Prince of Anhalt, where some days before there happened a very unlucky accident: a bomb setting fire to a magazine of powder, it blew up, and in so doing overturned two monasteries, and buried a thousand persons in the ruins. On the 21st the garrison were compelled by the townsmen, frightened at the accident before-mentioned, to surrender prisoners of war. About this time it was that the Duke of Orleans made some efforts to re-enter Italy, in which being disappointed, and his presence being of no further use in the army, he quitted it to return to Versailles.

The Duke of Savoy assisted by Prince Eugene and the many brave general officers he brought with him into Italy went on from day to day reducing the several towns and fortresses in which the Duke of Orleans had left garrisons when he quitted Italy; and, among other places, of the castle of Domodosola, which commanded the last passage open towards France.

The duke, being returned into Piedmont, caused the post of Veillane to be fortified, that the entrance into the plain of Turin might be rendered more difficult; and when this was done he determined to besiege Casal. On the 23d of November the trenches were opened with the loss of 150 men: on the 6th of December the place beat the chamade, and the governor demanded permission to retire with his garrison, their baggage and six pieces of cannon; but the Duke of Savoy refused to grant any other terms than being made prisoners

ners of war, on which hoſtilities were again begun; but, on the duke threatening to ſtorm the place, the governor ſubmitted, his garriſon conſiſting of 1900 men, amongſt whom were ſixty-five officers; there were found in the place ſixty-ſix pieces of cannon, a prodigious quantity of powder, and vaſt ſtores of ammunition and proviſions. This was the laſt enterprize of the allies in this campaign; and a glorious campaign it was for them; for, in the courſe of only a few days, Modena, Mantua, Milan, Piedmont, and the kingdom of Naples, were loſt to the houſe of Bourbon.

We now come to ſpeak of the naval operations of this year. It being thought neceſſary by all means to keep up a ſtrong force at ſea, the following reſolutions were paſſed in the houſe on that ſubject: 1. That, in order to man the navy for the year 1706, the juſtices of peace, and other civil magiſtrates, be impowered and directed to make ſearch after ſeamen that lay concealed. 2. That the ſaid juſtices and civil magiſtrates cauſe ſuch ſeamen, when found, to be delivered to ſuch perſons as ſhould be appointed to receive them. 3. That a penalty ſhould be laid upon ſuch perſons as ſhould preſume to conceal ſeamen. 4. That a reward be given to ſuch perſons as ſhould diſcover and take up ſuch hidden ſeamen. 5. That conduct-money be allowed. 6. That ſeamen, being turned over from one ſhip to another, ſhould receive the wages due on the former ſhip. 7. That able-bodied landmen be raiſed for the ſea ſervice.---To bring theſe reſolutions to effect, they ordered, that the committee to whom the bill for the encouragement and encreaſe of ſeamen, &c. was committed, ſhould have power to receive a clauſe, or clauſes, purſuant thereunto, and to receive a clauſe for diſcharging ſuch ſeamen, and other inſolvent priſoners as were in priſon for debt, and delivering them into her majeſty's ſervice on-board the fleet; which, being paſſed into an act, received the royal aſſent March 19. The ſame day the lords addreſſed

dreſſed her majeſty on the ſame ſubject, praying her to take it into her royal care, and employ proper perſons to conſider of effectual means to reſtore the diſcipline of the navy, in order to be laid before the parliament the beginning of the next ſeſſion. Purſuant to which, her majeſty, a few days after, cauſed a long proclamation to be publiſhed for the better putting in execution the act of parliament above-mentioned.

Sir John Leake, who had been left in the Mediterranean with a ſquadron, in proceeding to Liſbon, where he was appointed to winter, met with ſuch a long continuance of bad weather, that he was thirteen weeks on his paſſage thither from the coaſt of Catalonia, which had ſo greatly reduced the proviſions on-board, that the allowance of bread was no more than two pounds a-week for each man; and, when thus ſcantily dealt out, it was only enough to furniſh five weeks ſubſiſtence. In this diſtreſs the admiral fell in with a fleet of victuallers off Cape St. Vincent, which had been ſent from England, and which brought them very ſeaſonable relief. Soon after the admiral's arrival in the Tagus, he received diſpatches from the lord high-admiral, informing him of the galleons which were fitting out at Cadiz for the Spaniſh Weſt-Indies, which he was inſtructed to endeavour to intercept; the King of Portugal likewiſe repreſented to Mr. Methuen the neceſſity that there was for a ſquadron of force to put to ſea, in order to meet and eſcort the homeward-bound Brazil fleet; the admiral had alſo preſſing orders from home to ſuccour Barcelona, which was then expoſed to the French fleet by ſea, and the army of Philip by land. In order to effect all theſe purpoſes, it was reſolved, in a council of war, to proceed immediately to ſea with all the ſhips, conſiſting of nine third rates, one fourth, two frigates, two fire-ſhips, and one bomb-veſſel, Engliſh; ſix ſhips of the line, one frigate, two fire-ſhips, and a bomb-veſſel, Dutch; and to proceed to the bay of Cadiz, there to endeavour

endeavour to take or deſtroy the galleons. A conſiderable reinforcement of men of war was expected from England, and with them ſome tranſports and troops for Catalonia; and, upon a junction with theſe, the other two objects of the expedition were intended to be purſued. When this plan of conduct was reſolved upon, the admiral acquainted the Engliſh ambaſſador, Mr. Methuen, that it would be neceſſary to lay an embargo on all ſhips and veſſels, that the enemy might have no intelligence of the deſign that was formed. The court of Portugal thereupon ordered the embargo to be laid. Nothing is more uncertain than the ſucceſs of the beſt-formed project; the failure of this aroſe from an unexpected quarter. Our admiral got under ſail on the 24th day of February; but, when he was near the bar at the mouth of the Tagus, ſeveral ſhot were fired at him from St. Julian's Caſtle, which obliged him to come to an anchor. Upon enquiring the reaſon of this extraordinary conduct, the commanding officer under the Duke de Cadaval, who was the governor, ſaid, "that he had orders not to ſuffer any ſhip of war, or merchantman, to paſs the bar." It was now neceſſary to ſend an expreſs to Liſbon, to procure an exemption for the fleet of the allies from the general embargo; in conſequence of which it could not proceed until the next morning. A ſecret diſpoſition to thwart the meaſures of the allies, was the true reaſon why the general reſtriction was ſo abſurdly extended to them whom it was meant to ſerve: at the ſame time ſhips were ſuffered to paſs, by whom the Spaniards are ſuppoſed to have been informed of the deſtination of the combined fleet. So effectual were French intrigues at the court of Portugal! On the 27th, Sir John Leake reached Cape St. Vincent; and, proceeding eaſtwardly to Cape St. Mary's, he ſpread out his fleet, ſo as to intercept the galleons, ſhould they quit the harbour of Cadiz before he could reach it. The ſame night the Dutch vice-admiral Waſſanaer

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ſent advice, that the galleons had ſailed the day before their arrival. So that, by the impediment which had been thrown in the way of the fleet's quitting the Tagus, the opportunity was loſt for intercepting the wealth of Spain. Two Spaniſh ſhips were taken, the maſters of whom acknowledged, that the galleons had ſailed in conſequence of ſecret intelligence received from Liſbon. After thus miſſing of their prey, oppoſing winds retarded the arrival of Sir John Leake at Gibraltar until the middle of March, when he received an account of the perilous ſituation of the Spaniſh monarch Charles III. in Barcelona.

To underſtand the preſent poſture of affairs in Catalonia, it will be neceſſary to give a ſketch of the tranſactions which had taken place in thoſe parts, in which the intereſts of this Auſtrian claimant to the crown of Spain were involved. No ſooner was Barcelona, and with it Catalonia, reduced the laſt year, than the active ſpirit of the Earl of Peterborough led him to attempt the reduction of the kingdom of Valencia to the allegiance of Charles; leaving therefore the king in the city of Barcelona, he proceeded, with the greateſt part of the troops, on this expedition, in the midſt of winter. On the ſide of Portugal, the Engliſh and Portugueſe took the field early in the ſpring: their army amounted to 40,000 men, which was commanded by the Earl of Galway and the Marquis de Las-Minas. Theſe generals entered Eſtramadura, took Alcantara, forced Ciudad-Rodrigo, Salamanca, and the poſt of Eſpinar, in the kingdom of Leon. The French and Spaniards, in the mean time, were projecting the deſtruction of King Charles's affairs at a blow. Philip V. cauſed a numerous body of troops, commanded by Marſhal Teſſé, to march againſt Barcelona, where his rival then was, with a weak garriſon, and ill prepared in every other reſpect for a vigorous defence; while the Count Thouloufe blocked up the harbour with all the naval force of France.

The

The Earl of Peterborough hereupon haſtened to the relief of the place, which was inveſted by ſea and land the beginning of March; ſo that he found it impracticable to enter the city. He nevertheleſs maintained his poſt upon the hills, and with amazing courage and activity kept the beſiegers in continual alarm.

The earl, in paſſing from Barcelona to Genoa, to negotiate ſome affairs, in the Reſolution, a ſeventy-gun ſhip, commanded by his youngeſt ſon Captain Mordaunt, in company with the envoy from Charles III. to the Duke of Savoy, fell in with ſix large French ſhips. Peterborough and the envoy immediately went on-board a ſmall frigate which accompanied the ſhip, and thereby happily eſcaped to Oneglia; while Captain Mordaunt ſet ſail to eſcape the enemy; but finding that impoſſible, and having received conſiderable damage in the engagement, he ran the ſhip aſhore, under the cannon of the caſtle of Vintimiglia, belonging to the Genoeſe, who gave him no aſſiſtance. The captain was ſoon after diſabled by a ſhot in his thigh, and carried on-ſhore; the French commodore then manned all the boats of his ſquadron, in order to board the Reſolution, under a continued fire of one of their ſeventy-gun ſhips. The Engliſh, however, defended their ſhip with great bravery, and drove back all the boats. The next morning a French eighty-gun ſhip brought to under the Reſolution's ſtern, which raked her terribly; and, no poſſibility of eſcape being left, the captain, with the concurrence of all his officers, directed her to be ſet on fire, after all the men were ſafely got on-ſhore.

Sir John Leake, having been joined by ſix Engliſh and as many Dutch men of war, in the beginning of April ſet ſail for the relief of Barcelona, with thirty ſail of the line, having received a letter from Charles, entreating his immediate aſſiſtance. On the 18th of April he arrived at Altea Bay, where he was joined by Sir George Byng and Commodore Walker. On the

26th the Earl of Peterborough came on-board the fleet, and hoiſted the union flag, as admiral and commander in chief. By the contrivance of Sir George Byng a conſiderable body of troops had been thrown into the town; and no ſooner did the whole fleet appear, than Count Thoulouſe quitted his ſtation, and made the beſt of his way to Toulon. In three days after his departure, Marſhal Teſſé raiſed the ſiege in the utmoſt confuſion, leaving his ſick and wounded behind him, and a letter recommending them to the humanity of the Earl of Peterborough; he left behind him a train of 106 pieces of braſs cannon, forty-ſeven mortars, 2000 bombs, 10,000 grenades, 40,000 cannon ſhot, 500 barrels of muſquet ſhot, 5000 barrels of powder, 8000 ſwords, 18,000 ſacks of corn, beſides flour, rye, and oats in great abundance. It is hard to account for this precipitate retreat, and ſtill more hard to aſſign a reaſon why ſuch quantities of military ſtores and proviſions ſhould have been left undeſtroyed. It has been ſuppoſed to have been occaſioned by a ſuperſtitious terror which had ſeized the Spaniſh troops, upon an almoſt total eclipſe of the ſun, which happened on the 12th day of May, and overſpread the country with a ſudden darkneſs. Thus was Charles reſcued from impending ruin, by the ſudden and powerful interpoſition of the fleet.

Nothing now remained to impede the operations at ſea; Alicant was ſoon reduced by Sir George Byng; Carthagena ſubmitted; and, in the month of September, the iſlands of Ivica and Majorca were attacked; the poſſeſſion thereof being found extremely neceſſary to the allies, both on account of the harbours which they preſented for the ſafe retreat of their ſhipping, and becauſe they were capable of furniſhing proviſions for the towns which had been ſubjected to Charles.

Sir John Leake appeared before Ivica on the 9th of September. This iſland, which is about fourſcore miles in circuit, abounds with corn, wine, fruit, ſalt; and

and the inhabitants, being a trading people, were rather inclined to submit to the allies than to remain under their old government; and therefore, on the first summons, they sent deputies to make their submission, which was readily accepted, and Charles III. was proclaimed.---On the 13th the fleet sailed for Majorca, and arrived on the 14th before Palma its capital. This island, one of the finest in the world, abounding with all the necessaries of life, well planted and well peopled, and so large as to be once accounted a kingdom, was at this time governed by Count Alcudia, who was a native of the place. He was warmly in the interest of King Philip; and, when the admiral summoned him, sent him a Spanish answer, "that he would defend the island as long as there was a man in it." But upon throwing three or four bombs into the place, which did no great mischief, the inhabitants rose, and forced the viceroy to surrender. He shewed his wisdom, however, where he could not shew his courage, by making a very prudent capitulation. Sir John Leake left a garrison in Porto-Pin, and two men of war to carry off the governor, and such other of the inhabitants as were disaffected to King Charles; and on the 23d of the same month he prosecuted his voyage for England. Before his departure, he received a letter from his Catholic majesty, who very gratefully acknowledged the services he had done him, and expressed the highest satisfaction as to his conduct on all occasions. On the 2d of October Sir John passed the Straits, and on the 4th, when he was off the South Cape, detached Sir George Byng, with the winter squadron, for Lisbon. On the 17th he arrived safe at St. Helen's, having been separated in a storm from the rest of the fleet, which came soon after into Portsmouth.

Meanwhile the Earl of Galway prosecuted his successes on the western side of Spain so effectually, that he penetrated even to the city of Madrid. Philip was

thereupon obliged to abandon his capital, and remove his court to Burgos. The Engliſh and the Portugueſe entered the city in triumph; and, to complete the misfortunes of the Bourbon king of Spain, he at the ſame time received an account of the defection of Carthagena, and the activity of the combined fleet in the Mediterranean. But for the unaccountable errors committed by the conquerors, the Spaniſh crown would have been for ever transferred from the houſe of Bourbon. Intoxicated by ſucceſs, they waſted that time, which ſhould have been employed in vigorous exertions, in riot and debauchery. At length Philip, rouſed to activity by the deſperate ſtate of his affairs, drew together a large army, at the head of which he marched to recover his capital. Galway and Las-Minas were now in their turn forced to retire. Having joined Charles, their king of Spain, they paſſed with him into the kingdom of Valencia; and diſpoſed their quarters in ſuch a manner as to cover the kingdoms of Arragon and Catalonia, as well as to open an uninterrupted communication with Caſtile. The Duke of Berwick, however, hung cloſe on their retreat; and, before the end of the campaign, retook Carthagena.

The operations of the war were ſo widely ſpread, that we are obliged to ſpeak of them according to their locality, without ſtrictly adhering to the preciſe order of time in which they took place. A Frenchman, who had aſſumed the title and character of the Marquis de Guiſcard, had inſinuated himſelf into the favour and confidence of Henry St. John, ſecretary of war, and formed the plan of an expedition to the coaſt of France. Such was the reliance placed on the intelligence which this adventurer communicated, that 10,000 land forces were put on-board tranſports, the command of which was given to the Earl of Rivers, a man of a profligate character, and venal principles, but perſonally brave. Sir Cloudeſly Shovel had the command of the fleet, which ſailed from Plymouth

mouth on the 13th of Auguſt. Next day they were forced into Torbay by contrary winds; and there they held a council of war to concert their operations, when they diſcovered that Guiſcard's plan was altogether chimerical, or at leaſt founded on ſuch ſlight aſſurances and conjectures, as could not juſtify their carrying it into execution. An expreſs was immediately diſpatched to the admiralty, informing them of the reſult of this council; at the ſame time advices were received from the Earl of Galway, with an account of his retreat from Madrid to Valencia, and earneſtly ſoliciting immediate and effectual ſuccours. The deſtination of the grand armament was hereupon changed, and Sir Cloudeſley Shovel was ordered to proceed directly for Liſbon, and there to take ſuch farther meaſures as the ſtate of the war in Spain ſhould render neceſſary. Guiſcard being ſet on ſhore, the fleet got under ſail, and towards the latter end of October arrived at Liſbon. From thence the admiral ſent Colonel Worſley to King Charles and the Earl of Galway, in order to receive from the king himſelf and his general, a certain account of their affairs, and to ſettle the nature of the ſervice which the fleet ſhould perform. Before the return of this officer, the King of Portugal died, and was ſucceeded by John his eldeſt ſon, then eighteen years of age, who was even more than his father influenced by a miniſtry who maintained a private correſpondence with the court of Verſailles.---Whilſt the admiral continued here with his fleet, ſome ſhips which he had appointed to cruiſe, in ſailing out of the harbour were fired at from the fort. Shovel, greatly incenſed at this outrage, complained to the miniſtry, who endeavoured to palliate the injury, by imputing ſuch conduct to a miſtake in the governor, who they ſaid had orders to fire at and detain a Genoeſe ſhip, whoſe maſter was indebted to the king. But, the admiral being certainly informed that this very ſhip was then lying before the walls of the city of Liſbon, he gave them to underſtand,

ſtand, in a manner which became one of his conſequence ſo inſulted, that, if another gun was fired at any Engliſh ſhip, he would not ſtay for orders from his miſtreſs, but take ſatisfaction from the mouth of his cannon. This ſpirited declaration produced a very good effect, by procuring the Engliſh better treatment, although it could not be ſuppoſed to change the diſpoſition of the Portugueſe miniſtry.

One of the cruiſers which had been ſent from Liſbon was the Romney, a fifty-gun ſhip, commanded by Captain William Cony. He was joined by the Milford and Fowey, two fifth-rate men of war, in Gibraltar bay, on the 12th day of December. Intelligence was received that a French ſhip of ſixteen guns, having on-board thirty pieces of braſs cannon, which had been ſaved out of the ſhips which Sir John Leake ran aſhore, that were commanded by M. de Pointis, then lay at anchor under the guns of Malaga. Captain Cony hereupon reſolved to attack her; in proceeding thither, one of his ſhips was diſabled, and the other was ſeparated from him, which, however, did not diſcourage him from making the attempt, in which he was ſo ſucceſsful as to cut her from her anchors, notwithſtanding a continued fire was kept up from the batteries, and carried her ſafe into Gibraltar. On the 26th day of the ſame month, he gave chaſe to another French ſhip, called the Content, that carried ſixty-four guns. To eſcape the Engliſh, the captain ran the ſhip under the cannon of a ſmall fort, about eight leagues weſt of Almeria. Captain Cony, being now rejoined by the Milford and Fowey, anchored before him, and the three ſhips plied their guns very briſkly for upwards of two hours, when the French ſhip took fire, and ſoon after blew up, by which a great part of her crew were deſtroyed. This ſhip had been detached by Monſieur Villars, who was cruiſing with a ſquadron of French ſhips between Cape Palos and Cape de Gates, to eſcort the ſmaller veſſels with the braſs ordnance, that had been

been before cut out of Malaga harbour. In the beginning of January this vigilant officer took another French ſhip, called the Mercury, of forty-two guns, which ſome merchants of France had fitted out as a privateer.

The power of Louis XIV. was now ſo weakened and broken on all ſides, that he whom all Europe had formerly dreaded, now, in his old age, excited its pity. So much was his haughty ſpirit reduced by his misfortunes, that he employed the Elector of Bavaria to write letters in his name to the Duke of Marlborough and the deputies of the States-general, containing propoſals for opening a congreſs. He had already tampered with the Dutch, in a memorial preſented by the Marquis d'Alegre; he likewiſe beſought the pope to interpoſe in his behalf; he offered to cede either Spain and the Weſt-Indies, or Milan, Naples, and Sicily, to King Charles: to give up a barrier for the Dutch in the Netherlands; and to indemnify the Duke of Savoy for the ravages that had been committed in his dominions. But the Dutch were intoxicated with ſucceſs, and their penſionary Heinſius was entirely influenced by the Duke of Marlborough, who found his account in the continuance of the war, as it brought him every year a freſh acceſſion of glory, and what was to him equally dear, an immenſe revenue. During the whole war, the allies never had ſuch an opportunity as they now enjoyed, to bridle the power of France effectually, and to ſecure the liberties of Europe. They had indeed loſt ſight of the motives which led them to enter into the war; for, had they aimed at no more than to eſtabliſh an equal balance between the houſes of Auſtria and Bourbon, it could not have been better effected, than by dividing the Spaniſh monarchy between theſe two potentates. The acceſſion of Spain, with all its appendages, to either, would have deſtroyed the equilibrium which the allies propoſed to ſettle. The confederacy were therefore

led to continue the war from leſs noble conſiderations: the powers leagued againſt Louis were now fired with the ambition of making conqueſts; and England in particular, thought herſelf entitled to an indemnification, for the immenſe ſums ſhe had expended. The Queen of England and the States of Holland, therefore, rejected the offers of France, declaring, that they would not enter into any negociation for peace, but in concert with their allies.

The parliament having met at Weſtminſter on the 3d day of December, the houſe of commons voted, the ſame day, "the thanks of the houſe to be given to the Duke of Marlborough, for his eminent ſervices to her majeſty, and this kingdom, in the great and glorious victories and ſucceſſes obtained over the common enemy, in the laſt campaign," which was accordingly preſented by a committee the next day. And his grace going down to the houſe of lords ſoon after, the lord-keeper, by direction, gave him the thanks of that houſe likewiſe, in a very handſome ſpeech. The commons then proceeded with ſuch unanimity to grant the ſupplies, that an ample proviſion was made, in the ſpace of eighteen days, for the ſervice of the ſucceeding year. They voted near 6,000,000 for the ſervice of the ſucceeding year 1707. When the ſpeaker preſented the money-bills, he told her majeſty, that, as the glorious victory at Ramillies was obtained by the Duke of Marlborough before the armies were ſuppoſed to have taken the field, ſo the commons had granted the ſupplies for the enſuing year before the enemy could be apprized that the parliament was ſitting. The two houſes then proceeded to teſtify the ſenſe they had of the duke's ſervices, by more ſolid proofs than a vote of thanks; a bill was paſſed to perpetuate his titles to his poſterity in the female line, in failure of male heirs; and, the queen having before granted his grace 5000 pounds a-year during her life, the parliament continued it to his family for ever.

Proviſion

Proviſion being thus made for the continuance of the war, the parliamentary ratification of the treaty of union with Scotland, which treaty had been executed by the commiſſioners appointed by both kingdoms on the 22d day of July 1706, was next brought under diſcuſſion. The articles which compoſed this famous compact were twenty-five in number: they ſtipulated, That the two kingdoms of England and Scotland ſhould from thenceforth be united, under the title of Great-Britain; that the ſucceſſion to the united kingdom of Great Britain ſhould be veſted in the princeſs Sophia, and her heirs, according to the acts already paſſed in the parliament of England: that the united kingdom ſhould be repreſented by one and the ſame parliament: that all the ſubjects of Great Britain ſhould enjoy an equal communication of privileges and advantages in trade and commerce; and that ſhips built in Scotland ſhould be admitted under the act of navigation. The land-tax was adjuſted in the following proportion, viz. that, when England paid 1,997,763l. 8s. 4d½. Scotland ſhould pay 48,000l. and ſo in proportion; and, as an equivalent for Scotland's being charged with the debts of England, there was granted to the former by the latter the ſum of 398,085l. 10s. to be applied to the diſcharge of the public debts of the kingdom of Scotland, the capital ſtock of the African and India Company, with intereſt at five per cent. and for the improvement of the manufactures and trade of that part of the iſland. It was alſo provided, that the monies and weights of Scotland, ſhould be the ſame with thoſe of England; the Scotch courts of juſtice were preſerved, together with all hereditary offices, and the rights and privileges of the royal boroughs; the repreſentatives of Scotland were fixed at ſixteen peers, and forty-five commoners, which, though ſmall in proportion to the Engliſh peers and commoners, yet was high in compariſon of the

ſhare borne by Scotland in the taxes; the rights and privileges of the reſt of the peers were fully ſecured; ſo that, except ſitting in the houſe, they were to enjoy all the privileges of the peerage; and all the laws of either kingdom, inconſiſtent with the union, were declared null and void.

The Scotch parliament had already ratified the union, notwithſtanding it occaſioned a very alarming ferment among the people. On the 28th day of January 1707, the queen, in perſon, informed her parliament thereof. When the commons formed themſelves into a committee of the whole houſe, to deliberate on the articles of the union, and the Scottiſh act of ratification, the Tory party, which was very weak in that aſſembly, began to ſtart objections. Sir John Packington diſapproved of this incorporating union, which he compared to a marriage without the woman's conſent. He ſaid, it was an union brought about by corruption and bribery within doors, by compulſion and force without: he ſaid, the promoters of it in Scotland had baſely betrayed their truſt, in giving up their ancient free conſtitution; and he hoped it would forcibly ſtrike every member in that houſe, that ſuch men were unfit to be incorporated into the body of repreſentatives. He made one curious remark, among others, which was this: that the queen, by her coronation oath, obliged herſelf to maintain the church of England, as by law eſtabliſhed; and was likewiſe bound, by the ſame oath, to defend the preſbyterian kirk of Scotland, in one and the ſame kingdom. Now, (continued he,) after this union is in force, who ſhall adminiſter ſuch oath to our future ſovereigns? It is not the buſineſs of the Scotch, who, by this treaty, are incapacitated from doing it, and no well-wiſhers to the church of England: it muſt therefore devolve upon the biſhops to do it; and can it be ſuppoſed, that theſe reverend perſons are capable of acting a part ſo unbecoming their ſtation and functions, as thus to help forward the eſtabliſhment

eſtabliſhment of the preſbyterian church government in the united kingdom? He added, that the church of England being eſtabliſhed *jure divino*, and the Scots pretending that the kirk was alſo *jure divino*, he could not ſee how it was poſſible for two nations to unite, whoſe ſentiments claſhed in ſo eſſential a point. A motion was made, that the firſt article of the treaty, which implies a peremptory agreement to an incorporated union, ſhould be poſtponed, and that the houſe ſhould proceed to the conſideration of the terms of the intended union, contained in the other articles: but, this being rejected, ſome Tory members quitted the houſe, and all the articles were read and approved without farther oppoſition.

Notwithſtanding all this harmony, however, the treaty was received with the utmoſt diſapprobation in Scotland. The terms had been carefully concealed, ſo that nothing tranſpired till the whole was at once laid before parliament. The ferment was then ſo general, that all ranks of people, however divided in other reſpects, united againſt this treaty. The nobility and gentry were exaſperated at the annihilation of parliament, and the conſequent loſs of their influence and credit. The body of the people cried out, that the independence of the nation was ſacrificed to treachery and corruption. They inſiſted that the obligations laid on their members to ſtay ſo long at London, in their attendance on the Britiſh parliament, would drain the country of its money, impoveriſh the members themſelves, and ſubject them to the temptation of being corrupted. Nor was the commercial part of the people better ſatisfied. The diſſolution of the India company, the taxes laid on the neceſſaries of life, the vaſt number of duties, cuſtoms, and reſtrictions, laid upon trade, were all of them matter of complaint. Before this time the trade of Scotland had been open to the Levant, the Baltic, France, Spain, Portugal, Holland, and the Dutch plantations; and it ſeemed

difficult to conceive how the commerce of the country could be advanced by laying reſtrictions upon it to theſe places, eſpecially as the compenſation allowed, viz. the privilege of trading to the Engliſh plantations in America muſt have been a trifling advantage, when the amount of the whole exports to theſe places did not near equal the expence of defending them. The moſt violent diſputes took place in the parliament. Lord Belhaven made a moſt pathetic ſpeech, enumerating the miſeries that would attend this treaty; which drew tears from the audience, and to this day is reckoned prophetic by many of the Scottiſh nation. Almoſt every article of the treaty was the ſubject of a proteſt, and addreſſes againſt it were preſented to parliament by the convention of royal boroughs, the commiſſioners of the general aſſembly, the company trading to Africa and the Indies, as well as from ſhires, ſtewartries, boroughs, towns, and pariſhes, without diſtinction of whig, tory, preſbyterian, or epiſcopalian. Nor was the reſentment of the common people without doors leſs than that of the members within. A coalition was formed between the preſbyterians and cavaliers; and to ſuch a height did the reſentment of the people arrive, that they choſe officers, formed themſelves into regiments, provided horſes and ammunition, burnt the articles of union, juſtified their conduct by a public declaration, and reſolved to take the route to Edinburgh and diſſolve the parliament.---In the mean time the privy council iſſued a proclamation againſt riots, commanding all perſons to retire from the ſtreets whenever the drum ſhould beat; ordering the guards to fire on thoſe who ſhould diſobey this command, and indemnifying them from all proſecution for maiming or ſlaying in thoſe caſes. Even theſe precautions were inſufficient: the Duke of Queenſberry, the chief promoter of the union, tho' guarded by double lines of horſe and foot, was obliged to paſs through the ſtreets at full gallop, amidſt

the curſes and imprecations of the people, who pelted his guards, and even wounded ſome of his friends who attended him in the coach. In oppoſition to all this fury, the Duke of Queenſberry and others attached to the union magnified the advantages that would accrue to the kingdom from it; they took off the reſentment of the clergy, by promoting an act to be inſerted in the treaty, by which the preſbyterian diſcipline was to be the only government of the church of Scotland, unalterable in all ſucceeding times, and a fundamental article of the union. Emiſſaries were ſet at work to diſunite the Cameronians from the Cavaliers, by demonſtrating the abſurdity, ſinfulneſs, and danger, of ſuch proceedings. The India Company was flattered with the proſpect of being indemnified for the loſſes they had ſuſtained, and individuals by ſharing an equivalent. Their laſt manœuvre was to bring over a party in the Scots parliament, nicknamed the *ſquadrone volante*, (flying ſquadron,) from their fluctuating between miniſtry and oppoſition, without attaching themſelves to any party, till the critical moment, which was either to cement both kingdoms by a firm union, or involve them in the calamities of civil war. By this unexpected ſtroke, the miniſtry obtained a deciſive victory, and all oppoſition was vain: the articles of the treaty were ratified by parliament. with ſome trifling variations, on the 25th of March, 1707; when the Duke of Queenſberry finally diſſolved that ancient aſſembly, and Scotland ceaſed to be a ſeparate kingdom. The union was unalterably completed on the firſt of May following, and the iſland took the name of "The United Kingdom of Great-Britain." The queen expreſſed the higheſt ſatisfaction when it received the royal aſſent, and ſaid, "ſhe did not doubt but it would be remembered and ſpoken of hereafter to the honour of thoſe who had been inſtrumental in bringing it to ſuch a happy concluſion. She deſired that her ſubjects of both kingdoms ſhould

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from henceforward behave with all poſſible reſpect and kindneſs towards one another; that ſo it might appear to all the world they had hearts diſpoſed to become one people." The firſt of May was appointed a day of public thankſgiving; and congratulatory addreſſes were ſent up from all parts of England, excepting the univerſity of Oxford: the Scots, however, were totally ſilent on the occaſion.

Before the opening of the campaign of 1707, a very extraordinary attempt was made by a partizan in the imperial army, and which very narrowly miſſed of ſucceſs. This man's name was Quientem: he had ſerved the Prince de Conti as valet de chambre when he went into Hungary; he afterwards became one of the Elector of Bavaria's band of muſic, and then became huntſman to the ſaid prince. This man, going over to the imperialiſts, ſerved as a partizan, and was honoured with a brevet as colonel for ſome good ſervices he had performed. This ſpurred him on to do greater things: and, the mighty alterations produced by the battle of Ramillies making it no difficult matter to get from Flanders into France, he formed a project for carrying off ſome prince of the blood as he ſhould be travelling on the road between Verſailles and Paris; and it is generally believed that his view was particularly upon the dauphin. In order to effect his purpoſe, he made choice of ſixteen officers and fourteen dragoons, all enterpriſing men and of great reſolution: he procured three paſſports for ten men each; and, having given them to perſons he could truſt, he divided his company into three bodies, each of which entered France by a different route, joining in the neighbourhood of Paris. He directed that ten men ſhould poſt themſelves in the wood of Chantilly, ten at St. Ouen, and the other ten at Seve, on the road from Paris to Verſailles; theſe laſt, to prevent diſcovery, were lodged in different public houſes: one of them, who was a lieutenant, went frequently

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to Paris; he walked from time to time in the ſtreet of Seve, and on the bridge that croſſes the Seine there; he one day met the Duke of Orleans, but it happened to be too light for him to undertake any thing. Two days after, the dauphin and the princeſſes paſſed him going to hunt in the wood Boulogne; but they were too well accompanied for the partizan to hope any thing from an attack. At laſt, on the 24th of March, he who was centinel perceiving M. de Berringhen, firſt equerry to the king, in a coach and ſix, with the king's liveries, with a few attendants, it being but half paſt ſeven in the evening, took him for ſome prince, and immediately made a ſignal for the nine others who paſſed the bridge. Thoſe who guarded the bridge, ſeeing him croſs it three or four times in a hurry, threw down the barrier, ſtopped him, and gave notice to the grand provoſt. Meantime his nine companions, among whom was Quientem himſelf, ſtopped the coach, put out the flambeaux; and then, taking M. le Premier (ſo in France they ſtiled the king's firſt equerry) by the ſleeve, told him that he arreſted him by the king's order. M. le Premier anſwered that he juſt came from his majeſty, that he would be glad to know who he was, and whether he had not ſome officer with him, to whom he might ſpeak. Quientem, without making him any anſwer, made him get out of the coach and mount a ſpare horſe which one of the ſervants rode. M. le Premier's valet would have followed him, had not one of the ſoldiers threatened to ſhoot him, upon which his maſter bade him go back. He who was ſtopped at Seve was their guide, and his loſs proved a great misfortune to them, becauſe it retarded their journey: they turned by the walls of the wood of Boulogne, from whence they went to St. Ouen, where they had left a poſt-chaiſe, with the ten men we have mentioned; but, as they did not know the roads perfectly, they loſt a good deal of time in getting to that place. M. le Premier's valet de chambre

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ſoon carried the news of his maſter's misfortune to Verſailles, ſo that the king heard of it by nine o'clock; he thereupon ſent an order to diſpatch couriers forthwith to the intendants, with directions to ſtop all the paſſages. His majeſty ſent alſo an exempt with twenty life-guards to follow the partizan. All the other equerries mounted, and rode, ſome towards Normandy, ſome towards Flanders, and others towards Germany. They learned that, M. le Premier finding himſelf much out of order, the partiſan made a halt for three hours to give him time to reſt, and had even cut and lowered the back of the chaiſe, which hindred its going, that his priſoner might be the leſs incommoded. The guards and equeries rode ſo faſt, and ſpread intelligence ſo quick, that the partizan, as he got out of the foreſt of Chantilly, heard the Tocſin. i. e. alarm bell, ring in all the villages, upon which he began to doubt the ſucceſs of his expedition; however he went on boldly and undiſcovered as far as Ham, where he was diſcovered by a quarter-maſter who rode up to him and clapped his piſtol to his throat. Quientem, finding himſelf ſurrounded on all ſides, was conſtrained to ſurrender. M. le Premier immediately cried out that he had been extremely well uſed, and deſired that the man might not be hurt. He kept him that night to ſupper with him, carried him on his parole back to Verſailles, and lodged him there in his own apartments. Madame de Berringhen, who happened to be gone before her huſband in another coach, made Quientem a conſiderable preſent for the civilities which he had ſhewn M. le Premier. It is certain that nothing but his condeſcenſion in ſtopping thoſe three hours hindred him from getting clear off, ſince, at the place where he was ſtopped, he was within three hours march of a place of ſafety; and on this account it was that he and his companions were diſcharged.

The propoſals of peace offered by France having been rejected by the allies, Louis XIV. found himſelf obliged

obliged to make all poſſible preparations for continuing, with ſome vigour, the war. The uncommon misfortunes of the laſt campaign had embarraſſed his councils, and thrown his kingdom into the utmoſt diſtreſs and conſternation. To avert the deſtruction that ſeemed impending over him, he extended a line of militia along the coaſt of the ocean, and the ſhore of the Mediterranean. He found means to collect together an army in Flanders, the command of which was entruſted to the Duke of Vendome; another under Marſhal Villars was formed near Straſbourg: a body of men rendezvouſed in Navarre, and another in Rouſſillon; and reinforcements were ſent to the army commanded by the Duke of Berwick in Spain.

The French were ſucceſsful this year in Germany, and the affairs of the confederates wore a gloomy aſpect. The uſual ſluggiſhneſs and backwardneſs of the princes almoſt ſubjected the empire to the ſame misfortunes from which it had been relieved by the battle of Blenheim. The continuance of the inſurrection in Hungary, combined with the habitual inactivity of the court of Vienna, had rendered the efforts of the houſe of Auſtria extremely languid on the Upper Rhine. The Marcgrave of Bareith, who ſucceeded to the command of the Imperialiſts on the death of the Prince of Baden, led an army inconſiderable in point of numbers, and ill provided with neceſſaries for the field. The French army, under Marſhal Villars, having paſſed the Rhine at Straſbourg, forced the lines of Stolhoffen, laid the duchy of Wirtemberg under contribution, entered Swabia, and penetrated to the Danube. The famous lines of Stolhoffen were ſo ſtrong, that the Germans, thought them abſolutely impregnable, and Prince Louis of Baden had ſuch confidence in their ſafety, that he had laid out near half a million ſterling on his fine palace and gardens at Raſtadt; yet Villars had the glory of forcing theſe lines without the loſs of a man; the French found there about ſixty

pieces of braſs and iron cannon, a great quantity of ammunition, 40,000 ſacks of corn, the like quantity of oats, an intire bridge of boats, and ſome pontons. Villars advanced as faſt as poſſible to Raſtadt; but, before he began his march, he went in perſon through the ranks, intreating the ſoldiers not to plunder the country, aſſuring them he would take all the care he could that they ſhould be properly ſubſiſted, adding, that he would not threaten them with ſeverities, becauſe he hoped he had intereſt enough with them to engage the obſervation of exact diſcipline without. When he arrived at the magnificent caſtle of Raſtadt, he found it perfectly furniſhed, the Princeſs of Baden with her children having quitted it but the morning before to go to Etlingen; he was obliged however to remain three days in this neighbourhood, that the army might be provided with bread. On the 28th a bridge of boats arriving in the army, he decamped from Raſtadt, leaving a guard to prevent the caſtle or gardens from receiving any damage. He encamped that evening at Rutberg near Etlingen, from whence he went to make a viſit to the Princeſs of Baden, who returned him abundance of thanks for the care he had taken of her houſe and gardens. M. de Villars contented himſelf with ſaying, that he owed much more to the memory of Prince Lewis of Baden, with whom he had been particularly acquainted at the Imperial court, and for whom, notwithſtanding ſome quick repartees which had paſſed between them, he had always a very high eſteem.

But, while Villars was meditating meaſures which might change the whole face of the war, he was forced to weaken his army by great detachments into France itſelf, which we ſhall ſoon ſee attacked within its limits by the allies. Towards the end of the campaign, the Elector of Hanover took the command of the army of the empire; and, Count Mercy having ſurpriſed the Marquis de Vivant at Offenbourg, Villars was forced

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to abandon all his great ſchemes, and to repaſs the Rhine.

The invaſion of the French was not the only evil which the emperor and empire had now to fear. Charles XII. king of Sweden, having remained during the winter in Saxony, found very plauſible pretences for a quarrel with the court of Vienna. He complained of an inſult committed by Count Zobor, chamberlain to his imperial majeſty, on Baron Stralenheim, the Swediſh envoy. Though all reaſonable ſatisfaction was given by the emperor, the King of Sweden, with an obſtinacy ſuitable to his character, increaſed his complaints, and multiplied his demands. He peremptorily required, that 500 Ruſſians, to whom the court of Vienna had given refuge in the Auſtrian dominions, ſhould be delivered into his hands. He inſiſted, that the proteſtants of Sileſia ſhould be indulged with the free exerciſe of their religion, according to the treaty of Weſtphalia; that his imperial majeſty ſhould relinquiſh all pretenſions to the quota which the King of Sweden had neglected to furniſh according to the tenure by which he held his dominions in Germany; and that the whole Swediſh army, in their return through Sileſia and Poland, ſhould be maintained at the charge of the court of Vienna.

The Emperor Joſeph was in no condition to refuſe a compliance with theſe arbitrary mandates; but the Queen of England and the States were alarmed, leſt German pride ſhould ſacrifice the intereſts of the allies to a new quarrel. The court of London therefore reſolved upon ſending the Duke of Marlborough to ſoothe the King of Sweden, to gain over his miniſters, and penetrate into their real deſigns. In the month of April his grace ſet out from the Hague for Leipſic, with a letter from Queen Anne to Charles XII. of Sweden. The duke arrived at Alt-Ranſtadt, where the King of Sweden held his head-quarters. He found this original character not ſimple, but ſordid,

in his appearance and œconomy, ſavage in his deportment, ferocious, illiterate, ſtubborn, implacable, and reſerved. The Engliſh negociator aſſailed him on the ſide of his vanity, the only part by which he was acceſſible: "Sire, (ſaid he,) I preſent to your majeſty a letter, not from the chancery, but from the heart of the queen my miſtreſs, and written with her own hand. Had not her ſex prevented her from taking ſo long a journey, ſhe would have croſſed the ſea to have had an interview with a prince admired by the whole univerſe. I eſteem myſelf happy in having the honour of aſſuring your majeſty of my regard; and I ſhould think it a great happineſs, if my affairs would allow me to learn, under ſo great a general as your majeſty, what I want to know in the art of war." Charles was pleaſed with this overſtrained compliment, which ſeemed to have been calculated for a raw unintelligent barbarian, unacquainted with the characters of mankind. He profeſſed particular veneration for Queen Anne, as well as for the perſon of her ambaſſador, and declared he would take no ſteps to the prejudice of the grand alliance.

In Flanders nothing of importance happened during the campaign. The French, under the Duke de Vendome, prudently avoided an action; and they guarded their motions ſo well, that they furniſhed the Duke of Marlborough with no opportunity of attacking them with advantage.

In Spain, things went greatly in favour of Philip V. and againſt the allies. King Charles III. after his unfortunate retreat from Madrid, left nothing uneſſayed to keep up the ſpirits of his ſubjects; he promiſed them mighty ſuccours, as well from his brother as from Great Britain and the States. He ſent courier after courier with letters to the Earl of Galway and the Count das Minas, to intreat them to make all the neceſſary diſpoſitions for entering Caſtile as early as poſſible, that they might once more contribute to bring him

him in safety to Madrid. He likewise gave full power to the Earl of Peterborough to borrow 100,000 pistoles, or any greater or smaller sum, on such interest and conditions as his lordship should think fit, and to make the necessary assignments upon any or all of his majesty's rents and revenues for their security. Till these schemes were brought to bear, the king did his utmost to put the troops he had into the best condition possible, for the defence of the provinces already in his hands, and that they might be in a condition to act offensively as soon as the season should permit.

The efforts made by King Philip to keep possession of that crown which he had assumed were wonderful; he found it impossible, with all the assistances his grandfather gave him, to support both his court and army; he therefore diminished at once half of his civil list and half that of his queen's, which was so far from displeasing the Spanish grandees, that they instantly did the same thing, and applied their savings towards the expences of the war.

The kingdoms of Catalonia, Arragon, and Valencia, had acknowledged Charles; and the Earl of Galway and Marquis das Minas now resolved, in compliance with the earnest request of that prince, to penetrate, with the combined army, composed of English, Dutch, and Portuguese, troops, into New Castile. In consequence of these resolutions, they drew together all their forces on the last day of March at Xatria, whither the artillery had been conveyed.

The Marshal Duke de Berwick, natural son of James II. who commanded the army of Philip, was not so early in the field; in the beginning of April he caused his troops to assemble at Pretota, while the Duke de Popoli drew together the Spanish army at Yecla. After their junction, the Earl of Galway and the Marquis das Minas encamped at the last-mentioned place. The Duke de Berwick, when he first came to the army, had encamped at Villena, and when he left

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it put a garriſon of 100 men into the caſtle, under the command of a French officer, on whoſe courage and conduct he depended very much. The Earl of Galway, conceiving that Villena would be of great advantage to him, immediately cauſed it to be inveſted, of which when the Duke of Berwick had notice, he inſtantly advanced to Almanza, within ſix leagues of Villena. Upon this motion of the enemy, the Earl of Galway called a grand council of war, in which he repreſented to the general officers, that it was apparently the Duke of Berwick's deſign to ſuccour Villena, or to cut off their communication with Valencia, from whence they drew their ſubſiſtence. He therefore gave it as his opinion, that, ſince they were already diſtreſſed for proviſions, they ſhould march immediately and fight the duke, in order to open themſelves a paſſage to freſh quarters. The members of which the council of war was compoſed came readily into his ſentiments, and accordingly every thing was diſpoſed for an engagement.

On the 25th of April in the morning the army of the allies, conſiſting of 16,000 men, marched in four columns towards Almanza, to attack that of the two crowns, commanded by the Duke of Berwick. They found him perfectly well prepared for them, and his army (which conſiſted of 24,000 men, 8000 of whom were horſe and dragoons) drawn up in excellent order, the Spaniards on the right and the French on the left. When the Earl of Galway was come within a ſmall diſtance of the army of the two crowns, after a pretty long march, he made a halt in order to diſpoſe his troops in battalia, and to ſupport his deficiency in horſe, by mingling with them ſome corps of foot. Lord Tyrawley had the command of the left wing, which he endeavoured to diſpoſe in ſuch a manner as to make its front equal to that of the Spaniſh cavalry. As for the Duke of Berwick, he remained without motion in his poſt, and without making the leaſt change in his diſpoſitions.

ſitions. But at laſt, perceiving the left wing of the allies beginning to move, he cauſed a battery which he had raiſed of nine pieces of cannon to play upon them with great fury, while in the mean time the Earl of Galway diſpatched Colonel Dormer, at the head of a detachment of dragoons, to make himſelf maſter of thoſe cannon, in which he was prevented; for after three diſcharges the engineers had directions to withdraw them, ſo that Colonel Dormer's march ſerved only to weaken the wing from which he was detached. The left wing however charged the army of the two crowns briſkly, but the Duke de Popoli at the head of the Spaniſh cavalry, ſoon broke them and forced them to retire; but two Engliſh regiments of foot, whom the Earl of Galway had poſted by way of precaution behind the Portugueſe horſe, made ſo warm a diſcharge on the Duke de Popoli's troops, that they forced them in their turn to retire in ſome diſorder. The Earl of Galway upon this ordered five Engliſh battalions to defile by the left, in order to attack the infantry of the two crowns in flank, which was now left naked. But the Duke of Berwick, cauſing the brigade of Maine to advance at the ſame time with thoſe battalions, not only preſerved his own infantry, but flanked thoſe five battalions. By this time the troops in the centre were engaged, ſo that the five battalions were not properly ſupported; whence it came to paſs that they were entirely routed; and, the horſe which had rallied behind them flying at the ſame time, a dreadful carnage enſued. The right wing of the allies had better ſucceſs; a brigade of Dutch troops broke a Spaniſh brigade, and ſoon after the brigades of Orleans and of the crown retired a little precipitately. The Chevalier d'Aſfeld, obſerving that this made a great impreſſion on the infantry, ſent his aid de camp along the line to tell them, that it was done by the Marſhal de Berwick's order, and that they would ſee the reaſon of it preſently. It ſeems the marſhal, on the firſt motion of the Dutch

brigade, had detached four ſquadrons of dragoons, who, as ſoon as they ſaw the French troops rally and return to the charge, took the Dutch in flank, and fell to cutting them in pieces. The Engliſh regiments of Hill and Lord Mark Ker advancing to ſuccour the Dutch, the brigade of Maine advanced at the ſame time from the ſecond line of the army of the two crowns, and filled up the void, which the retiring of the French infantry had left in the firſt. The Duke of Berwick cauſing the French horſe to fall upon the cavalry of the allies on the right, the latter, which was moſtly Portugueſe, broke at the ſecond charge, and left the battalions poſted to ſupport them naked; but this accident was more fatal to themſelves than to thoſe battalions, for two battalions of Portugueſe foot, being poſted at ſome diſtance, and obſerving a body of horſe advancing towards them with great celerity, made no doubt but that it was the cavalry of the two crowns, and fired upon them ſo briſkly that a great number of them were killed and wounded. The Engliſh and Dutch battalions remained yet firm, and could not be broken, though they were much outnumbered by the French; which the Duke of Berwick obſerving, and afraid that he ſhould want light, cauſed two brigades to attack them in flank, which they perceiving, retired in very good order towards the mountains, followed by the horſe of the right wing of the two crowns, who cut to pieces ſeveral Portugueſe battalions in the retreat. A Portugueſe regiment of foot forming itſelf into a ſquare battalion in ſight of the Duke of Berwick, he thereupon cauſed it to be attacked in the right by the Spaniſh horſe, on the left by the French foot, who alſo fell upon its rear; but the Portugueſe ſuffered themſelves to be cut to pieces in their ranks, rather than break, in hopes of eſcaping by flight. The left wing of the allies, conſiſting moſtly of Engliſh troops, repulſed fifteen or ſixteen ſquadrons of cavalry from the right wing of the

the army of the two crowns; and, being ſuſtained by the regiments of Southwell, Blood, Wade, Montjoy, and Stewart, made a very brave ſtand. The Duke of Berwick cauſed nine battalions and as many ſquadrons of freſh troops to fall upon this wing, which at laſt broke it. The Spaniſh guards and the brigade of Maine purſued the centre of the allies towards the mountains; however, General Shrimpton, Brigadier Macartney, Colonel Hill, and ſome other Engliſh officers, drew together a mixed body of troops, Engliſh, Dutch, and Portugueſe, and carried them off from the field of battle in the beſt order poſſible. The troops of the left wing of the allies, finding the paſſages in the mountains ſecured, were obliged to ſurrender, which they did to the Chevalier d'Asfeld, to the number of thirteen battalions, commanded in chief by Count Dhona: of theſe five were Engliſh, five Dutch, and three Portugueſe, which, with ſix taken before, made in all nineteen. The duke took alſo all their artillery, conſiſting of twenty-four pieces of cannon, together with 120 colours and ſtandards. The allies loſt 5000 men killed upon the ſpot, among whom were Brigadier Kelligrew, the Lieutenant-colonels Roper, Lawrence, Dormer, Deloches, Green, MacNeil, Wollet, Withers, Areſkine, Ramſey; and Col. Areſkine; ſix general officers were made priſoners, twenty colonels, and 800 ſubalterns, with 900 private men, excluſive of the battalions before-mentioned. As to the officers who eſcaped, they were almoſt all wounded. The Earl of Galway had two deep cuts in the face; the Marquis das Minas was wounded in the arm, and his miſtreſs, who fought in the habit of an Amazon, was killed by his ſide; Colonel Pierce and Colonel O'Hara, afterwards Lord Tyrawley, were wounded, as were alſo the Lord Mark Ker, and Colonel Clayton.---The army of the two crowns did not gain a bloodleſs victory; they loſt at leaſt 3000 men, among them ſeveral general officers, and a great

number of other officers. The regiment of the crown loſt its colonel, Brigadier Polaſtron, ten captains, and moſt of its ſubaltern officers. The Duke de Sarno, who commanded the King of Spain's guards, received no leſs than eleven wounds, but he and his corps did wonders; and it is owned on all hands that the Spaniards did their duty on this occaſion with amazing fidelity and firmneſs. The Earl of Galway behaved with all the courage that was poſſible: the Marquis das Minas did all that could be expected from him, and many of the Engliſh officers diſtinguiſhed themſelves on that unfortunate day, particularly Colonel Hill and General Kirk. It is conceived that the unlucky iſſue of the battle of Almanza was owing to the great fatigue the troops had undergone, and to their want of proviſions, which was the true reaſon why the Earl of Galway propoſed fighting. The Marquis das Minas eſcaped to Xativa, with ſome cavalry. The Earl of Galway, with a party of horſe, taking the route towards Catalonia, arrived at Tortoſa, near the mouth of the Ebro. The city of Valencia ſurrendered to the conqueror, and ſoon after the whole kingdom, together with that of Arragon, were reduced under the domination of Philip V. The arrival of a ſtrong ſquadron, under the command of Sir George Byng, afforded great relief to the miſerable remains of the confederate army.

Sir Cloudeſley Shovel arrived on the 20th day of May, with the reſt of the grand fleet. Although the army in Spain was now almoſt annihilated, yet the Duke of Savoy was at the head of a reſpectable body of troops in Piedmont; and the emperor had engaged to furniſh an army, the command of which was to be given to Prince Eugene, whoſe antipathy towards the French king, at whoſe court he had been educated, and from whom he had ineffectually ſought promotion, animated him to the fulleſt exertion of his extraordinary talents, in humbling the houſe of Bourbon.

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Prince Eugene, therefore, unſatisfied with driving the French out of Italy, inclined to follow them home; and there needed little to induce the Duke of Savoy to return the compliments Louis XIV. had paid him by the Marſhal Catinat, the Duke de Vendome, and the Duke de la Feuillade. Theſe motives therefore concurred to the engaging thoſe princes in concerting and carrying into execution a ſcheme for invading France, and for making themſelves maſters of the important port of Toulon. This deſign againſt Toulon had been projected between the Duke of Savoy and the Earl of Peterborough; but, when the credit of that nobleman declined, the prince cauſed his miniſter at the court of London, to renew the ſcheme with the Duke of Marlborough. The attempt was calculated totally to ruin the French naval power at one ſtroke: and had the confederates united their ſtrength to cruſh the enemy, without being drawn aſide by ſeparate intereſts, and impeded by mutual jealouſies, there is little reaſon to doubt that it would have been accompliſhed. But the different powers that were leagued againſt France had, by this time, formed private views of advantage, to which they ſacrificed the common cauſe. The Dutch aimed not only at poſſeſſing all Flanders, but at eſtabliſhing a lucrative trade with the kingdom of Spain. In this latter object, they ſaw with diſpleaſure the Engliſh likely to ſupplant them. They were unwilling to admit that the Engliſh, who had given energy to every operation of the war, by ſupplying money, men, and ſhips, with an unſparing hand, had a right to reap the benefits ariſing from the conteſt: this temper therefore rendered them indifferent to the reduction of Toulon; for they ſaw that, in proportion as it diſtreſſed their enemy, it aggrandized their rival. The emperor too found his particular intereſts point another way. The poſſeſſing himſelf of the kingdom of Naples was ſo valuable a prize, that every other conſideration gave

way to it. He had no maritime intereſts himſelf, and was indifferent to the advancement of them for his friends and benefactors. The Duke of Savoy had no important intereſts ſtaked upon the iſſue of the war; his troops were paid by the Engliſh nation, and he led them againſt Louis XIV. whoſe ſon had married one of his daughters, and againſt Philip V. who had married another.

The firſt ill omen that foreboded the miſcarriage of this deſign againſt Toulon, was, the emperor reſolving to employ 12,000 of his troops in the conqueſt of the kingdom of Naples. It was in vain that the Engliſh ambaſſador at the court of Vienna repreſented the important ſervices which had been rendered to that prince and his family by the Engliſh nation, the vaſt importance of the undertaking againſt Toulon to the common cauſe, and the certainty of his acquiring Naples after the expedition was over; he was inflexible; but the deſign was not on that account laid aſide. On the 5th day of June the fleet came to an anchor before Finale; it conſiſted of forty-three ſhips of the line, and fifty ſeven tranſports. Prince Eugene went thither to confer with the admiral, and ſoon after the fleet ſailed for Nice, where a council of war was held, in which it was reſolved, to force a paſſage over the Var, although the French conſidered their works upon that river as impregnable. Sir John Norris was appointed to conduct this daring enterprize. He ſailed with four Britiſh and one Dutch man of war, to the mouth of the river, and, embarking 600 ſeamen and marines in open boats, entered it, and advanced within muſquet-ſhot of the enemies works, and kept up ſuch an inceſſant fire, that the French could not withſtand it. Their cavalry firſt gave way, and their foot ſoon after began to quit their entrenchments. Sir Cloudeſley Shovel arriving at the place of action, and ſeeing the diſorder into which the enemy was thrown, ordered Norris to land with the ſeamen and marines, in order

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to flank the enemy. This ſervice was performed with ſo much conduct, and the men advanced with ſuch valour and reſolution, that the French fled in confuſion from their works, which were immediately occupied by the Engliſh, and a free paſſage opened for the Duke of Savoy and his army, who croſſed the river half an hour after, without any oppoſition, where he expected to have found a moſt obſtinate one. Upon this gallant exploit the army marched to Toulon without moleſtation: it conſiſted of 30,000 men; the artillery and ammunition were conveyed on-board the fleet, which hereupon ſailed for the iſles of Hyeres. The army appeared before Toulon on the 15th of July, having ſpent eleven days in marching over about ninety miles. This inroad into the kingdom of France, from a quarter where it was thought invulnerable, threw the French into the utmoſt conſternation. Toulon was in a very weak ſtate of defence, nor was any conſiderable body of troops in that part of the country; no leſs than forty-four large men of war were then in port, having on-board upwards of 3000 guns; beſides theſe were twenty-five frigates, fire-ſhips, and other veſſels, all which were in imminent danger of being deſtroyed. The allies took poſſeſſion of the eminences that commanded the city, and, the ordnance being landed, they erected batteries, from whence they began to cannonade and bombard the city, while the fleet attacked and reduced two forts at the entrance of the mole, and co-operated in the ſiege with their great guns and bomb-ketches. The garriſon defended the place with vigour. They had uſed incredible activity in ſtrengthening the fortifications; they ſunk ſhips in the entrance of the harbour, and kept up a briſk fire from their ramparts; they made deſperate ſallies, and even drove the beſiegers from the heights of St. Catharine, with great ſlaughter. The French were indefatigable in marching troops from all parts of the kingdom into Provence. To increaſe the embarraſſ-

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ment of the allies, the generals disagreed; the Prince of Savoy sent orders to Prince Eugene to possess himself of mount St. Anne, which he refused to attempt, the emperor having given him secret instructions not to expose his troops. The Duke of Savoy, sensible of the growing strength of the enemy, and being informed of the preparations that were making to cut off his retreat, resolved to abandon the enterprise. No sooner was this step determined upon, than the artillery were re-embarked, together with the sick and wounded: the whole army struck their tents, and decamped in the night; and, with more expedition than it had advanced, retreated to Piedmont.

The very day the army began to march, the fleet drew as near the place as possible, and five bomb-vessels, supported by the light frigates, and all the boats of the men of war, under the command of Rear-admiral Dilkes, advanced into the creek of fort St. Lewis, and, notwithstanding a prodigious fire from the place, bombarded the town and harbour, from noon till five the next morning, and this with all the success that could be expected. By this means the army had time to quit their camp, which they did in five columns, without annoyance, the enemy being too much engaged to pursue them; and, as to any attempts afterwards, his royal highness prevented them by marching, in two days, as far as in his approach to the place he had marched in six. This end had the famous siege of Toulon, from whence the confederates hoped and the French feared so much. If the Duke of Savoy had arrived a week sooner, he had carried his point; and if Marshal Tessé, who was sent into Provence, had acted with skill and dispatch, his royal highness had returned without an army. Notwithstanding the miscarriage of this enterprize, it proved of great service to the allies, and produced such happy consequences, as ought perhaps to balance the expence of it; for besides the great damage the French sustained

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in their ſhipping, the burning and deſtroying of eight of their capital ſhips, the blowing up ſeveral magazines, the burning of above 160 houſes in Toulon, and the devaſtations committed in Provence by both armies, to the value of 30,000,000 of French livres; this enterprize (which ſtruck a greater terror throughout all France, than had been known there during the whole reign of Louis XIV.) brought this further advantage to the common cauſe, that it gave a diverſion to the enemies forces, whereby their army in Germany was weakened; the Duke of Orleans' progreſs after the battle of Almanza retarded in Spain; the ſuccouring of Naples prevented; and the conqueſts of the allies in Italy ſecured. The Duke of Savoy was no ſooner returned, than he inveſted the important fortreſs of Suza, which ſurrendered at diſcretion on the 24th of September, and thereby gave him an open paſſage into Dauphiny, at the ſame time that it enabled him to ſhut the French effectually out of his own dominions.

Sir Cloudeſley Shovel, having left a ſquadron of thirteen ſail for the Mediterranean ſervice, ſet ſail for England with the reſt of the fleet. Having touched at Gibraltar, he proceeded for England, and arrived at the mouth of the Channel. He found himſelf in ſoundings on the 23d of October, having a very briſk gale at ſouth-ſouth-weſt, but hazy weather. About eight o'clock at night, his own ſhip, the Aſſociation, ſtruck upon the rocks of Scilly, called the Biſhop and his Clerks. Sir George Byng was then leſs than half a mile to windward of him; he ſaw the ſignals of danger that were made from the admiral's ſhip, which in two minutes time diſappeared, and every perſon onboard periſhed. The ſame fate befel the Eagle, Captain Robert Hancock, of 70 guns, and the Romney, Captain William Cony, of 50 guns. The Firebrand fire-ſhip was likewiſe loſt; but Captain Piercy, who commanded her, and twenty-four men, ſaved themſelves

ſelves in the boat. The Phœnix fire-ſhip, commanded by Captain Sanſom, was driven a-ſhore, but was fortunately got off again. The Royal Anne, in which Sir George Byng bore his flag, was ſaved by the preſence of mind of the officers and men, who ſet her topſails when ſhe was within a ſhip's length of the rocks. Sir John Norris and Lord Durſley, with very great difficulty diſentangled themſelves from the threatening fate; beſides whom ſeveral others ran no ſmall hazard among theſe dangerous little iſlands. Thus periſhed the great Engliſh admiral Sir Cloudeſley Shovel, with all his officers, and about 900 ſailors. The admiral's body, being caſt a-ſhore, was ſtripped and buried in the ſand; but afterwards diſcovered and brought into Plymouth, from whence it was conveyed to London, and interred in Weſtminſter-abbey.

This year was fatal to England in the loſs of her naval commanders. Rear-admiral Dilkes, who had been left in the Mediterranean, proceeded to Leghorn, where he arrived on the 19th day of November. Here he was informed of the bad poſture of Charles's affairs in Spain; the Duke of Orleans, who was at the head of Philip's army, had made himſelf maſter of Lerida; whilſt Tortoſa and Tarragona were in great danger of falling into his hands; and, unleſs timely ſuccour was brought, the whole province of Catalonia was likely to be wreſted from the Auſtrian claimant of the crown of Spain. When Sir Thomas Dilkes came into the road of Leghorn, he demanded a ſalute of ſeventeen guns, which being refuſed him, he wrote to the Engliſh envoy at the grand duke's court, who, on ſtating this complaint, was anſwered by the ſecretary of ſtate, that the caſtle of Leghorn never gave the firſt ſalute to any flag under the degree of a vice-admiral; and, as to the number of guns demanded, Sir Cloudeſley Shovel, though admiral of the fleet of Great-Britain, was content with eleven, and returned the ſame number. Soon after this the rear-admiral died of a fever, after ſome days

days illneſs, ſays Burchet; but Dr. Campbell ſays, that his diſeaſe was cauſed by an *Italian dinner*; and he adds, the court of Tuſcany was all along manifeſtly partial to the French, and the ſalute which Dilkes required was founded on ſome extraordinary civilities that had been paid to French flags. The ſeamen always looked upon the admiral as a martyr for the honour of his country.

Upon the death of Rear-admiral Dilkes, the command devolved on Captain Jaſper Hickes, who was the next ſenior officer, and who ſailed from Leghorn to the coaſt of Genoa, where embarking his troops at Vado, a little town to the weſtward of Savona, he eſcorted them ſafely to Spain, and then proceeded, with his ſquadron, to Liſbon, where he received orders to refit, and wait the arrival of Sir John Leake, who was ſent out from England with the title of admiral, and commander in chief.

At the time our fleets were every where ſuperior to thoſe of the enemy, our trade ſuffered in almoſt all parts of the world, by the ſmall ſquadrons of men of war, as well as privateers, which iſſued out of the French ports. Sir Thomas Hardy, at this time, commanded in the Channel. In the month of July he had orders to convoy the trade from the port of London to Liſbon. When he was about one hundred leagues from the Lizard, ſix French men of war appeared in ſight, which he gave chace to; they proved to be a ſquadron commanded by Du Guay Trouin. Night coming on, a council was called, in which fourteen captains gave it as their opinion, that the admiral ſhould give over the chace, and bear away to protect the Liſbon fleet. For this conduct he was afterwards brought to a court-martial, who honourably acquitted him of all blame: and, though the admiral's conduct was afterwards ſcrutinized very cloſely by higher tribunals, yet no imputation fell upon him; he there-

fore continued to be employed, and acquitted himſelf with honour.

Whilſt the French were ſending out ſhips to pick up prizes from Breſt, another ſmall fleet, under the command of Monſieur Fourbin, was equipped at Dunkirk, and employed in making depredations on the Engliſh ſhipping to the eaſtward. Towards the latter end of April 1707, a fleet of merchantmen, conſiſting of fifty-five ſail, outward bound, had a convoy appointed them of three men-of-war, viz. the Royal Oak, of 76 guns, Captain Baron Wylde, commander and commodore; the Grafton, of 70, Captain Edward Acton; and the Hampton-Court, of 70, Captain George Clements. This fleet, in proceeding from the Downs, was attacked by the Dunkirk ſquadron, conſiſting of ten men-of-war, a frigate, and four privateers. The commodore drew five of the ſtouteſt merchant-ſhips into the line, and fought bravely for two hours and a half, being about ſix leagues to the weſtward of Beachy. Many officers and men were killed on both ſides, and the ſhips very much ſhattered in their hulls, maſts, and rigging. Captain Acton, of the Grafton, was killed in the action; and Captain Clements received a wound, of which he afterwards died. Theſe two ſhips were at length obliged to ſtrike. Captain Wilde finding thoſe ſhips in the enemy's poſſeſſion, and having eleven feet water in his hold, made the beſt ſhift he could to ſave his ſhip, by running her a-ſhore to the eaſtward of Dungeneſs; whilſt the engagement continued with the men-of-war, the lighteſt of the enemy's frigates, and their privateers, took twenty-two merchantmen, which they carried, together with two men of-war, into Dunkirk. In this engagement, the conduct of a midſhipman on-board the Hampton-Court was very remarkable. While the enemy was employed in plundering the ſhip, he conveyed Captain Clements, who was mortally wounded in the belly, through a port-hole into the long-boat,

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into which himſelf, and ſeven ſailors, crept by the ſame means, where they continued to conceal themſelves from the notice of the enemy. When an opportunity offered, they fell to their oars, which they plied ſo manfully, that they reached the harbour of Rye the next day. Three days after the action, Commodore Wylde had ſo far repaired the damage of his ſhip, that he brought her ſafe into the Downs. All the French relations of this diſaſtrous affair do us the juſtice to own, that our captains behaved extremely well, and that their victory coſt them very dear. The French king promoted M. Forbin, for this gallant ſervice, to the rank of chef d'eſcadre, and gave him likewiſe the title of count. Mr. Burchet cenſures the manner in which this fight was maintained on the ſide of the Engliſh, and thinks the misfortune that befel them aroſe from their being drawn into a cloſe line, and lying by to receive the enemy; had they, on the contrary, he ſays, kept conſtantly under ſail, and fought in that manner, the elevation of the ſhips, and their weight of metal, would have enabled them to have done more execution. This affair raiſed a great commotion in the nation; and the merchants laid the whole blame upon the admiralty-council, who, they ſaid, ought to have informed the commodore of the ſailing of the Dunkirk ſquadron, for the doing of which ample time intervened. The manner in which the trading veſſels of England were made prizes of by the French cruiſers, might well draw forth complaints from the merchants; and indeed, the intereſts of that uſeful and reſpectable body of men, were ſhamefully ſlighted by the council of admiralty, who ſuffered the two French partiſans, Forbin and Guay Trouin, to ride triumphant in the Britiſh ſeas, whilſt our formidable naval force was making conqueſts in the Mediterranean, for a prince ſo deſtitute of the talents requiſite for governing, that he loſt, by his own incapacity, whatever was procured him by the bravery

of his allies. In the month of July fifteen merchantmen, from the port of London to Archangel, being nearly one-third of the fleet, were taken on their voyage thither by Forbin, on the coaſt of Lapland, in the latitude of 69 deg. 40 min. The French computed the value of the goods taken, at 1,200,000 livres, or 52,500l. ſterling. The account publiſhed in England was extremely embarraſſed and obſcure. Admiral Whetſtone commanded the convoy, whoſe conduct, in this buſineſs, was much complained of. The private intelligence which had been given the French, was ſuppoſed to have enabled them to proceed ſucceſsfully againſt our fleets.

On the return of the Dunkirk ſquadron, Count Forbin received orders to join that which had been fitted out at Breſt, under the command of Trouin, which he accordingly did on the 8th of October. Thus united, their force conſiſted of twelve ſhips, which were of the French navy, but employed on the account of private adventurers; one of 72 guns, others 60 and 50; and none carried fewer than 40 guns.

In the latter end of Auguſt, there was a great fleet ready for Liſbon, having on-board proviſions, military ſtores, and upwards of 1000 horſes, for the King of Portugal's ſervice. The merchants were extremely uneaſy about a convoy: they obſerved, that ſo many ſhips had been taken in the voyage to Portugal, that it not only affected the commerce, but the reputation, of this kingdom, and obliged the Portugueſe to ſend their orders for corn, even againſt their will, into Holland; for this reaſon they earneſtly intreated, that ſuch a convoy might be given them, upon this occaſion, as might ſecure ſo great a fleet, (for there were no fewer than 130 merchantmen,) and thereby recover our credit at Liſbon; and, in conſequence of it, our corn trade, which had been in a great meaſure diverted for the two laſt years. Theſe repreſentations were by no means pleaſing to the admiralty, where Admiral Churchill, the

the duke's brother, commonly expreſſed the ſenſe of his royal highneſs's council, and thereby drew on himſelf the merchants' diſpleaſure in the higheſt degree. He told them, upon this occaſion, that they ſhould be furniſhed with as ſpeedy and ſtrong a convoy as could poſſibly be provided for them; yet this convoy was not ready to ſail until the 24th of September. It conſiſted of the Cumberland, Captain Richard Edwards, of 80 guns; the Devonſhire, of the ſame force; the Royal Oak, of 76, lately ſpoken of; the Cheſter and Ruby, each of 50 guns. The Cheſter and Ruby were indeed the convoy, for the other three ſhips were only to ſee the fleet fifty leagues beyond Scilly. The fleet did not ſail till the 9th of October, and on the 10th, they fell in with the joint fleet of Count Forbin and M. du Guay Trouin, off the Lizard. The convoy diſpoſed themſelves in a line of battle, and thereby gave the merchant ſhips an opportunity of eſcaping. M. du Guay attacked the Cumberland, about twelve at noon, and with the aſſiſtance of two other ſhips, after an obſtinate diſpute, carried her; the Devonſhire defended herſelf for a long time againſt ſeven, and till evening againſt five French ſhips; but then, by ſome accident, which will remain for ever unknown, took fire, and blew up; two only, out of 900 men, eſcaped; the Royal Oak made a vigorous reſiſtance, and having ſet the French ſhip which attacked her, and was commanded by M. de Bearnois, on fire, got ſafe into Kinſale harbour; Count Forbin took the Cheſter; and de Couſerat and de Neſmond took the Ruby. As for the Liſbon fleet, they very prudently ſaved themſelves during the engagement; but the French made a prodigious boaſting of the men-of-war they had taken, though the diſpute was ſo very unequal. Mr. Burchet cenſures the manner in which this fight was maintained, upon the ſame principle on which he blamed the former one; our ſhips were of ſuch force, that, had they kept together under ſail, they would have made

made a very formidable battery; but the French ships, being many more in number, had opportunities of attacking each of them singly, with three or four of their ships at one time.

At the close of the year, Captain Haddock, of the Ludlow-Castle, fell in with two French frigates, the Nightingale and Squirrel, formerly the queen's ships, but now fitted out from Dunkirk as privateers, each of them having on-board as many men as the English man-of-war. They both lay by, till he came within gun-shot of them; but then made sail from him before the wind. At eleven o'clock at night he came up with the Nightingale, which immediately struck, but the other escaped. The captain of the Nightingale was an English renegado, who had formerly commanded a sloop in the queen's service, and having been tried by a court-martial, for irregular practices, was broke; a lieutenant, a midshipman, and a sailor, natives of England, were taken on-board the ship, together with an Irish priest: all these Captain Haddock sent up prisoners to London, where they were tried for high-treason.

Before we close our account of the transactions of this year, it will be proper to speak of the events which took place in the West-Indies. When Graydon returned from his ineffectual expedition thither, (see p. 49.) Sir William Whetstone was appointed to that command. He sailed from St. Helen's in March 1705, with one third-rate, four fourth-rate, and two fifth-rate, men-of-war. He arrived at Jamaica in May, and some time after sailed for the Spanish coast, where he took a French ship of 46 guns, having on board 150 men, which were all that remained alive of 370, with which she sailed. He afterwards fell in with two French privateers, one of which he forced a-shore, whereupon the crew set her on fire; the other escaped. A violent storm soon after forced the admiral to return to Jamaica with his squadron, only leaving the Montague, a 60-gun ship, to cruize

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on the coaſt of Hiſpaniola, where ſhe met with two French ſhips, one of 48 the other of 36 guns, which the captain of the Montague gallantly bore down upon and engaged. In the night the Frenchmen diſappeared, but the next morning they were again in ſight. The captain immediately gave orders to renew the combat; but, his officers and ſeamen expreſſing a great diſreliſh for the buſineſs, he was obliged to deſiſt. When the captain returned to Jamaica, he complained to his admiral that his orders had been diſobeyed by his officers and the crew: a court-martial was thereupon appointed, when, it fully appearing that the captain had done his duty to the utmoſt of his power, he was honourably acquitted; but his officers were broke, and many of his ſeamen puniſhed. As ſoon as the Montague arrived, Whetſtone ſent out the Briſtol and Folkſtone in ſearch of theſe French ſhips, who fell in with them and their convoy, but they contented themſelves with making prize of ſome of the merchantmen, for, having no ſtomach for fighting, they ſuffered the two men-of-war, and a great part of the fleet which they eſcorted, to eſcape, although abſolutely in their power. For this ſhameful breach of duty Captain Anderſon, the ſenior officer, was tried, broke, and declared unfit for ſervice.

Whilſt Whetſtone was detained for want of ſtores at Jamaica, the Suffolk, a 70-gun ſhip, on-board of which the admiral had hoiſted his flag, blew up in the gun-room; moſt of the men who were in that part were killed, and ſeventy more in their hammocks were ſo much burnt, that the greateſt part died. Had the ports been open when this accident happened, the ſhip would, moſt probably, have been totally deſtroyed; but the damage it ſuſtained was repaired, and ſhe afterwards returned to England.

The French had great advantages over the Engliſh in theſe parts, from the aſſiſtance which the Spaniſh harbours and ſettlements afforded them; from whence they

they drew a ready ſupply of whatever they ſtood in need of; they therefore reſolved to attempt the reduction of the Engliſh Leeward Iſlands; for which purpoſe Iberville, the governor of St. Domingo, fitted out a ſmall ſquadron of French men-of-war, the command of which was given to Count de Chevagnac, who ſailed in the month of March 1706, and made a deſcent on the iſland of St. Chriſtopher, which his troops plundered with great fury: they were ſtopped in their career by the caſtle, which made a vigorous defence, and at length the invaders were obliged to re-embark. Iberville having now joined Chevagnac with ſeveral more ſhips, they proceeded to Nevis, where the inhabitants capitulated. Soon after Commodore Ker arrived from England with a conſiderable force, and, having ſtationed ſeveral of his ſhips according to his inſtructions, he bore away with the reſt for Jamaica, which was then thought to be in danger from the junction of Iberville's ſquadron with ſome ſhips commanded by Du Caſſe.

In the mean time Whetſtone ſailed with a few ſhips from Jamaica, in hopes of attacking Du Caſſe before he was joined by the ſuccours he expected. But, this deſign being defeated by bad weather, he returned to Jamaica about the middle of July, and towards the end of the month was joined by Commodore Ker, with the ſquadron under his command. There being now ſo conſiderable a force, the admiral was very deſirous that ſomething ſhould be attempted capable of blotting out the memory of paſt miſtakes, and worthy of the Britiſh nation. After mature deliberation, it was reſolved to proceed to Carthagena, where they knew the galleons were, in order to try what effects King Charles's letters would produce, and whether the governor might not be wrought upon by our ſucceſſes in Europe, to own him for his rightful ſovereign in America. With this view Sir William Whetſtone and Captain Ker ſailed from Jamaica on the 8th of Auguſt, and

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on the 18th arrived before Carthagena, and ſent in a packet to the governor. But this produced no good effect; he declared, that he knew no other prince than Philip V. and that no other he would obey. There were at that time in the port fourteen galleons, lying cloſe in with the city, and unrigged. The admiral was for attempting to burn them; but the pilots declared, that any ſuch deſign would be found impracticable, unleſs we were firſt in poſſeſſion of Bocca Chica caſtle, and the other forts, and even in that caſe it was very doubtful whether ſhips of ſo great a ſize as theirs could get in. Then it was taken into conſideration what farther ſervice might be done, and the reſult of this was, a reſolution to return to Jamaica; from whence, as ſoon as the trade was ready, the rear-admiral was to convoy them home, and Commodore Ker to remain behind, in order to take upon him the command of the force left in the Weſt-Indies. This ſcheme was immediately put in execution, and upon their return, Sir William made all poſſible diſpatch in order to get home in time; and accordingly, leaving the iſland the latter end of October, he arrived at Plymouth on the 23d of December 1706, with the Suffolk, Briſtol, Reſerve, and Vulcan fire-ſhip, and a fleet of merchantmen under his convoy.

The chief command now devolved on Commodore Ker, whoſe deſigns were as well laid, and their iſſue as fruitleſs, as thoſe of his predeceſſors. One of them was an attack upon Port Louis, another on the Petit Guavas, but neither took effect. After this Sir John Jennings was diſpatched thither, but his command ſtands as little dignified by any important event as the others.

In North-America the French were more ſucceſsfully attacked in the year 1707. Captain John Underdown, commander of her majeſty's ſhip the Falkland, having received advice, on the 25th of July, that the enemy had ſeveral ſhips employed in the Newfound-

land fiſhery, he proceeded from the harbour of St. John's, having with him the Nonſuch and the Medway. Theſe three ſhips ſailed to the bay of Blanche, and arrived off the harbour of Fleur-de-lis, where the commodore ſent in his own pinnace, and that belonging to the Nonſuch: on-board of the firſt was Major Lloyd, who went on this expedition as a volunteer; and the lieutenant of the Falkland on-board the other. They found ſeveral ſtages and other neceſſaries for the fiſhery, which they deſtroyed, and then returned to the ſhips. The next day they made prize of a ſhip from St. Maloes, of 360 tons, 30 guns, and 110 men, called the Duke of Orleans. Another ſhip of 20 guns, and 80 men, belonging to St. Maloes, was likewiſe taken; two other ſhips, one of 32 guns, and the other of 26, from the ſame port, were attacked, but their crews abandoned them, ſet them on fire, and eſcaped on-ſhore. Off the harbour of St. Julian they diſcovered another ſhip, hauled quite up to the ſhore. All the boats being manned, on the 6th of Auguſt the enemy was driven from their poſts, and the ſhip was taken poſſeſſion of. The ſquadron then proceeded to Carouſe; in their way thither they looked into Petite Maiſtre, where they deſtroyed great numbers of boats and ſtages, with vaſt quantities of fiſh and oil. The damage the enemy ſuſtained by this expedition was, two ſhips brought away, a third taken but burnt, two more burnt by the French; 228 fiſhing-boats burnt; 470 boats and ſhalloways, 23 ſtages, 23 train-vats, all burnt; 77280 quintals of fiſh deſtroyed, together with 1568 hogſheads of train-oil.

The firſt parliament of Great-Britain met at Weſtminſter, on the 23d of October, without any new election for England; when the queen in her ſpeech to both houſes, palliated the miſcarriages in Provence and in Spain, repreſented the neceſſity of making farther efforts againſt the common enemy, and exhorted them to

to be upon their guard against those who endeavoured to sow jealousies in the nation.

At this period Secretary Harley's character incurred suspicion from the treachery of Gregg, a clerk in his office, who was detected in carrying on a correspondence with M. Chamillard, the French king's minister. This affair made much noise, and great discoveries were expected to follow. Gregg was indicted at the Old Bailey, found guilty, and executed as a traitor. In a paper which he delivered to the sheriff at his execution, he acknowledged his guilt, and declared, that he had no accessaries in his treason, and that Mr. Secretary Harley was entirely ignorant of his practices.

After both houses of parliament had adjusted many important matters respecting the government of the united kingdoms, they proceeded to take into consideration the future conduct of the war. The lords came to a resolution, that no peace could be safe and honourable for her majesty and her allies, if Spain and the Spanish West-Indies were suffered to continue in the power of the house of Bourbon. They presented an address, in which they desired she would press the emperor to send powerful succours into Spain, under the command of Prince Eugene, with all possible expedition, to make good his contract with the Duke of Savoy, and strengthen the army on the Rhine, which was now happily put under the conduct of that wise and valiant prince the Elector of Hanover. The commons concurred in this address; in consequence of which the queen desired the emperor to bestow the command in Spain upon Prince Eugene. The court of Vienna, however, did not comply with this request, but sent thither Count Staremberg, who, of all the German generals, was next to the prince in military reputation. The commons now proceeded to consider of ways and means, and established funds

for raiſing the ſupplies, which amounted this year to the enormous ſum of near ſix millions.

The Duke of Marlborough ſet out from London on the 29th of March, 1708, and embarked the ſame evening at Margate, and the next day, by two in the afternoon, he was in ſight of the coaſt of Holland; but, there being no pilot to carry in the yacht, his grace came in an open boat with oars to Maeſlandt-ſluys, from whence he proceeded to the Hague, where he arrived very late at night. Prince Eugene had been there two days before, and ſent early the next morning to compliment the duke on his arrival. On the 12th of April a grand conference was held in the uſual apartment of the States, for the ſettling the operations for the ſucceeding campaign. Prince Eugene opened the ſubject of the conference: he ſhewed in plain and conciſe terms the juſtice of the war on the part of the allies; he expatiated on the injuries which the Imperial houſe had ſuſtained; he apoligized for the meaſures taken by the late and preſent emperor from the breaking out of the war; and gave a fair and diſtinct account of the ſtate of the imperial forces in Naples, Lombardy, Piedmont, and of thoſe deſigned for Spain. He then mentioned the troops his Imperial majeſty deſigned to employ upon the Rhine; and laſtly he gave his own opinion, as to the operations of the next campaign on the Rhine and in the Netherlands. He obſerved that he had been inſtructed by his Imperial majeſty to uſe his endeavours to engage the Queen of Great Britain and the ſtates general to approve the ſcheme he had propoſed, in order to their effectual reducing, by their joint endeavours, the formidable power of the Gallic monarchy, and reſtoring the kingdom of Spain, and all its dependencies, to the auguſt houſe of Auſtria, in the perſon of its lawful monarch King Charles III. The Duke of Marlborough ſpoke next, and informed them of the queen his miſtreſs's ſentiments on the preſent ſtate of affairs. The deputies of

of the States were empowered to hear, but not to answer till they had reported the subject of these conferences to their masters. At last it was concluded, that the Imperialists employed on the Upper-Rhine, with the Saxons and Hessians in the pay of Great Britain and Holland, and the troops of the Elector Palatine, should march into the Netherlands, to act there under the command of Prince Eugene, in concert with the British and Dutch forces commanded by the Duke of Marlborough and Velt-marshal d'Auverquerque. All this being thus settled, the prince and the duke both set out for Hanover, in order to engage the elector to acquiesce in this scheme, which it was evident would leave him but a very feeble army on the Upper-Rhine. They arrived together at Hanover on the 26th of April, and lodged at the British envoy's the first night; but afterwards in the electoral palace. The conferences were carried on three days together, his electoral highness being at first averse to their proposal, which he saw clearly would oblige him to act wholly on the defensive; but at last he came into it, and agreed to part with all the regiments which were demanded for the completing Prince Eugene's army.

The Duke of Marlborough, by these negociations, effected what he had always thought necessary for the effectual humbling of France; he foresaw that if there was now any occasion he should be able to form two armies in Flanders, and, which was still of greater consequence, that it would be no longer in the power of the States deputies to hinder him from fighting, if he saw proper occasion. Full therefore of mighty hopes, he returned from Hanover to the Hague, while Prince Eugene went to Leipsic and Vienna, to execute what yet remained necessary to be done before he could appear with eclat in Flanders.

The French king, notwithstanding the great reason he had to be satisfied with the conduct of the Duke de Vendome, altered his measures and his generals this campaign.

campaign. The Elector of Bavaria was ſent to command the army on the Rhine, having under him the Duke of Berwick; Marſhal de Villars, who had commanded there before, was ſent into Dauphiné. The Duke of Burgundy was declared generaliſſimo of the army in Flanders, and the Duke de Vendome and Marſhal Matignon were ſent to command under him. The army they were to command was very formidable, conſiſting of no leſs than 139 battalions and 204 ſquadrons, commanded by the beſt general officers in the ſervice of France. M. de Chamillard was ſent to viſit the troops on the frontiers, that all things might be in the beſt order. On the 24th of May the Dukes of Burgundy and Berry joined the army, and on the 26th it marched to Soignes.

Velt-marſhal d'Auverquerque aſſembled the army of the allies at Anderlech near Bruſſels, where the Duke of Marlborough and the field deputies of the ſtates general arrived on the 24th of May; and ſtood then in the following condition: The firſt line conſiſted of 59 battalions and 94 ſquadrons, the ſecond of 53 battalions and 86 ſquadrons; in the whole 112 battalions and 180 ſquadrons: the train conſiſted of 45 Engliſh and 68 Dutch; in all 113 pieces of cannon. The briſk march of the French to Soignes, and the arrival of the Dukes of Burgundy and Berry, together with the Chevalier de St. George, in that army, occaſioned a ſuſpicion that the French, inſtead of declining, would ſeek a battle. On the 29th of May the French received their heavy baggage from Mons, but they ſent it back on the 31ſt; upon which the Duke of Marlborough, concluding that they would certainly hazard a battle, ordered the troops to be in readineſs to march at an hour's warning. The ſame evening his grace received intelligence that their baggage had received a counter order, and was actually brought back to the camp, their horſes having foraged for two days, from whence it was concluded that they would certainly

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remain where they were at leaſt a day longer. On this preſumption the horſe of the allies was ordered to forage next morning, which they did by break of day; but they had not been out an hour before advice came that the enemy had ſent away their heavy baggage at ten the night before, and had begun their march without noiſe by eleven. Upon this the horſe of the allies were recalled, and the foot were immediately ordered to march. The duke readily conceived the enemy's deſign to be what it really was, they poſſeſſing themſelves of the banks of the Deule, whereby they would effectually hinder the allies paſſing that river, and make themſelves maſters of Louvain; to prevent this there was no remedy but marching all night, which his grace put in practice, ſo that on the 3d of June the army arrived in the ſtrong camp of Terbank, miſerably fatigued, however, with ſo precipitate a march, and with twenty-four hours rain without intermiſſion, to which they had been expoſed. The Duke of Marlborough took up his quarters in the abbey of Terbank, and M. d'Auverquerque his in the ſuburbs of Louvain.

The true deſign of the confederates was to beſiege Liſle, as it was the intent of the French to prevent that ſiege, if poſſible, and to oblige the allies to paſs this campaign as they had done the former, without effecting any thing. In order to make a diverſion, the Duke of Burgundy, by the advice of the Elector of Bavaria, reſolved to attempt the ſurpriſal of ſome of the great towns in the Netherlands, in moſt of which his electoral highneſs had conſiderable intereſt, and conſequently exact intelligence, and people ready to execute whatever he directed. Ghent and Bruges were the places firſt fixed on, and, in order to the ſeizing theſe cities, the Duke of Burgundy detached from his army two conſiderable corps, one under the command of the M. de Grimaldi, a lieutenant general, who had under him the Baron de Capres, now Duke of Bournonville, and the Brigadier de la Faille; the other com-

manded by the Count Chemerault, a lieutenant-general. In theſe attempts they completely ſucceeded: Ghent and Bruges were ſurpriſed and taken; the Count Chemerault executed all that he was ſent for, breaking down every where the bridges on the Dender and the Schelde, terrifying all the little places in the neighbourhood. He had even the boldneſs to approach Oudenarde, a place well fortified, and of great importance to the allies, after the loſs of Ghent, having no paſſage over the Schelde but that; ſo that, if the count could have reduced it, he would have effectually cut off the communication which the army of the allies had with Menin and Courtray, and have ſecured the poſſeſſion of all the country between the Schelde and the Lis; but in the interim Brigadier Chanclos arrived with ſuch a detachment as put the place out of immediate danger.

The Duke of Marlborough, who was ſtill in his camp at Anderlech, as ſoon as he received advice of the ſurpriſal of Ghent and Bruges, reſolved to force the enemy to a battle, as the ſhorteſt means of reſtoring things to their former condition. The night the French arrived at their camp at Ninove, the army of the allies approached them; but, being exceedingly fatigued, his grace attempted nothing till the next day; the French however paſſed the Dender in the night, and retired with all imaginable ſpeed: their rear-guard was attacked by Major-general Schulemberg and Sir Richard Temple, and, after a briſk action, in which they had 150 killed and taken priſoners, a great part of their ſmall baggage fell into the hands of the allies. In the mean time, Prince Eugene having made a quick march from the Moſelle, and left his cavalry at Maeſtricht, arried in the camp of Aſche, with Major-General Cadogan, whom the duke had ſent to him, his highneſs being reſolved to be preſent in caſe of an engagement, though his troops did not come up. The next day a council of war was held, in which the former

mer resolution of fighting was confirmed, without a debate; the generals, and even the private men, shewing a passionate eagerness for engaging before the Imperialists came up.

The French army, being apprehensive of the junction of the Imperialists with the allies, thought of retiring into their lines, in order to wait for a reinforcement of 30,000 men, which was marching towards them under the command of the Duke of Berwick, when they imagined they should be once more able to look the Duke of Marlborough in the face. The same day that Brigadier Chanclos relieved Oudenarde, the confederate army marched in four columns by the left, the Earl of Albemarle being left with all the grenadiers and thirty squadrons to form the rear-guard, in case the enemy should make any motion towards Brussels. The ways being in good repair, the troops marched in very exact order, the head of them passing Herfelingen above five leagues from Asche, before eleven in the morning. Here the Duke of Marlborough gave orders for pitching their tents fronting the enemy; the French, who thought such a march impossible, did not beat the generale till three in the afternoon, thinking themselves secure of the strong camp of Lessines, in order to cover the siege of Oudenarde, for which they had their artillery ready at Tournay. Prince Eugene having joined the army at Herfelingen, the duke about four in the afternoon detached the indefatigable Major-general Cadogan, with eight squadrons and as many battalions, to seize the camp of Lessines. Eight hundred men of this detachment entered that town about midnight, and the rest passed through it at four in the morning, and posted themselves on this side of the river Dender. At seven the same evening that Cadogan marched, Marlborough ordered the retreat to be beat, which was the signal for striking the tents; the army immediately beginning its march, and continuing it all night, passed the Dender

about eleven in the morning, over the bridges laid by Cadogan, then took poſſeſſion of the camp of Leſſines, towards which the enemy had been in full march ſeveral hours, but on this diſappointment altered their march towards Gavre, in order to paſs the Schelde there.

To ſay the truth, it was the diviſions in the French army that gave the allies thoſe advantages they had in the ſubſequent engagement. The Duke of Vendome was for poſting the French army behind the Dender, there to wait the coming of the allies: he ſaid that in this ſituation they ſhould have nothing to fear, becauſe the allies would never think of forcing them when thus poſted; and that, if without loſs of time they took this meaſure, they would prevent their troops from being fatigued, preſerve them from an attack, and at the ſame time cover the new conqueſts, and ſecure their communication with Liſle, Ypres, and the lines; that, if the allies marched up the Dender, it was in their power to march on the other ſide and obſerve them, and to have always a march in their power, ſo that whenever it was neceſſary they might paſs the Schelde before them, and diſpute their paſſage afterwards. This advice was certainly right, but they did not follow it. The Duke of Burgundy was ſo intimidated with the bad ſucceſs they had in former engagements, he was reſolved to hazard nothing; he thought it beſt therefore to retire behind Ghent till they had time to conſider what to do next. The general officers, to make their court to the preſumptive heir of the crown, applauded his ſentiment, and the Duke de Vendome had no one to ſupport his; he did not however depart from it, but, ſhaking his head, let fall theſe words: "I find you will be loſt, do what I can: whenever you have ſhewn Prince Eugene that you did not care to fight, he has always forced you to a battle in ſpight of your teeth; and this will be your fate now." He was ſo touched with the behaviour of the generals towards him, that he repeated the ſame words over again;

again; but, finding they made no impreſſion, he ſuffered himſelf to be carried away by a torrent which he found it in vain to oppoſe.

The Duke de Vendome gave, however, indubitable proofs of his capacity as a general; for, by poſting ſeven battalions in the village of Heynem, and twelve ſquadrons in the plain, he had diſpoſed things ſo, that, when half the army of the allies had paſſed their bridges, he would have attacked them with all his troops, and have put it out of the power of the other half to have come to their aſſiſtance; but, happily for the confederates, the Duke of Burgundy diſapproved of this ſcheme alſo: he was ſtill for retiring to Ghent, and with this view ordered the troops to ſtop at Gavre, where, not knowing what to do, he did the worſt thing poſſible, which was to recal the dragoons out of the plain, and at laſt determined to retire in a manner little better than a flight: and to this, with great juſtice, the loſs of the battle of Oudenarde was attributed, as we ſhall ſee by what followed.

If the French had advanced in time, they might have cut the detachment of the allies, which was employed in throwing bridges over the Schelde, in pieces, or they might have broken thoſe bridges before the army came up; and, if then they had ſupported their left at Heynem, poſted their horſe behind the caſtle of Beveren, and their centre on the height between Wertigern and Hourne, they would have had all the advantages of ground they could have wiſhed. But, while they ſhould have been acting, they were diſputing; and it was three o'clock before any reſolution was taken at all; and then the Duke of Burgundy was for fighting. Major-general Grimaldi was ordered by him to begin the attack with the troops of the king's houſhold on the right, and to diſlodge Major-general Rantzau from the eminence he had gained; but when Grimaldi came to the rivulet, and found the ground on both ſides of it marſhy, his houſhold troops refuſed

to pass it, and retired towards their own right, though their army had 12,000 men more than the confederates, and were possessed at this time of other advantages. The Duke de Vendome entirely disapproved of this attack, and therefore sent his aid-de-camp with his orders to the left; but the Duke of Burgundy countermanded this, upon an information, as it was pretended, that there was an impassable morass on that side, over which however the Duke de Vendome and the Count d'Eureux had rode an hour before; this was the last blunder he had to make, and effectually complimented the allies with a victory. Major-general Cadogan, who had by this time passed the river with twelve battalions, about four o'clock attacked the village of Heynem, in which were seven battalions of French foot. General Sabine began the attack, and in a very short space cut part of four battalions to pieces, and took prisoners the rest of those four battalions, with three other battalions who did not fight at all.

The Duke of Burgundy saw now that there was no avoiding a general engagement, and therefore gave orders for his army to form, but it was too late. There were certainly two of the finest armies in the world engaged, this day, July 11; but neither of them was in order of battle; that of the allies were forced to attack as they camp up; that of France lost so much time before the resolution of fighting was taken, that they were attacked every where before they formed at all.

Major-general Rantzau, with eight squadrons, passed the rivulet, and advanced into the plain, where the French horse had been drawn up between the villages of Singhem and Mullen, and attacked the French squadrons that were still passing, driving them into the highway which led to the march of their own army; the Electoral Prince of Hanover, afterwards King George II. charged at the head of a squadron of dragoons,

goons, and greatly diſtinguiſhed himſelf, gaining the whole glory of the firſt attack. His horſe was killed under him; and Colonel Luſchki was mortally wounded cloſe by his ſide. "On that day (ſays Cunningham) this excellent young prince diſcovered ſuch courage as no man living ought to forget, and as all poſterity will never ſurpaſs." Lieutenant-general Schulemberg fought alſo among theſe troops as a volunteer, and they behaved ſo well, and preſſed the French ſo briſkly, that they broke ſeveral of their regiments, and took ſeveral officers, with twelve ſtandards, and as many kettle-drums.

While this was doing, the horſe of the allies continued paſſing the bridges, and formed as faſt as they entered the plain. The infantry arrived very late, through the extraordinary length of the march, and becauſe the horſe had galloped a great part of the road. The Duke of Marlborough, accompanied by Prince Eugene, was at the head of the cavalry in the plain, and, obſerving their great want of foot, ordered thoſe battalions which had attacked and carried the village to march from thence, and to throw themſelves into the hedges on the other ſide of the plain. We had not above two battalions on that ſide, which were thoſe of Brigadier Grumkau, who, though vigorouſly attacked, maintained themſelves in their poſt with great bravery, till there came up foot enough to ſuſtain them, which was not till a conſiderable time after. The Duke of Marlborough ſent repeated orders to the infantry to haſten their march, the French being ready to attack thoſe that were already on this ſide of the river, with very unequal numbers. The Duke of Argyle arrived in the interim with twenty battalions, which were ſcarcely poſted before they were attacked by the French with the utmoſt vigour, the Pruſſians being driven from their poſts, which however they recovered ſoon after ſword in hand, notwithſtanding their great inequality in number. This happened about ſix, when

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Count Lottum arrived with the reſt of the foot of the right wing, in order to ſuſtain the attack. The duke, perceiving that great efforts would be made on the right, ſent for twenty battalions from the left. This wing, the cavalry of which having paſſed through Oudenarde, and the infantry over bridges thrown a little below that town, arrived a little later than the right wing, and formed themſelves in two lines, leaving the village of Merghem behind them. As the infantry arrived, they formed in two lines before the cavalry, and attacked in good order the villages in the enemy's front. In about three hours the engagement was general from the right to the left, the French giving way on all ſides till they were ſuſtained by freſh troops, which occaſioned almoſt a freſh action. On the left of the left wing there was a fort of opening, which the Prince of Orange, at the head of the Dutch infantry, cloſed up. The duke ſent orders about this time to M. d'Auverquerque and Count Tilly to attempt ſomething on their ſide, in order to employ the enemy while he paſſed to the right. There was a great fire by this time on the ſide of the wood, and the French began again to give way in all directions. The duke ſent again to M. d'Auverquerque and Count Tilly, who were by this time on the mountain, to puſh the French as far as they were able on that ſide, upon which they ordered the Daniſh horſe to advance through a narrow defile into a field, where all the houſehold troops of France were drawn up behind the hedges. The Prince of Orange and Count Oxenſtiern advanced with the Dutch infantry into the ſame field, and taking the enemy in flank, who never thought of being attacked on that ſide, fell quickly into diſorder, the horſe charging them on one ſide, and the foot making a terrible diſcharge on the other, ſo that at laſt there was nothing but confuſion; and, the night growing very dark, many ſquadrons threw themſelves on the allies in deſpair, ſome broke through, ſome were cut to pieces,

ſome

ſome hit upon roads where none of the allies were poſted, and ſome ſurrendered without fighting at all. At laſt, when it was impoſſible to diſtinguiſh friend from foe, the confederate generals ordered the troops to ceaſe firing, chuſing rather to let the enemy eſcape than to hazard their own troops firing one upon another. When the diſorder among the French troops firſt began, the Duke de Vendome alighted from his horſe, and put himſelf, ſword in hand, at the head of his battalions: he called to the officers by name; he begged and intreated the ſoldiers to ſhew ſome kind of concern for their own reputation and for the cauſe of their country; but it was all in vain, he could not bring them up again; and, if night had not intervened, thouſands more muſt have been cut to pieces.

The Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene continued together for ſeveral hours after the battle began, viſiting the lines, directing the troops to take poſt, &c. Towards the laſt the duke left the care of the right to Prince Eugene, and went himſelf to the left. The prince took great pleaſure in leading up the Engliſh troops, fought amongſt them in perſon, and gave them the higheſt commendations. The Prince of Naſſau Frize gained great reputation from his courage and conduct on that day. But, amongſt all the heroes who diſtinguiſhed themſelves in this memorable battle, none claimed a juſter or larger ſhare of glory, than old Field-marſhal d'Auverquerque; he received without reluctance, and executed with alacrity, the orders ſent him by the Duke of Marlborough, and, broken as he was with years and with fatigue, he appeared in the hotteſt fire, and did all day long the duty of an inferior general, though he commanded the troops of the States. The Duke of Argyle, Count Tilly, the Prince of Wirtemberg, the Generals Rantzau, Webb, and Cadogan, did wonders; and Brigadier Sabine, who firſt attacked the village of Heynem, gave ſhining proofs of that valour and intrepidity

trepidity which afterwards raiſed him to the firſt commands in the army. As to the troops, they all behaved incomparably well; but the Pruſſian gendermerie diſtinguiſhed themſelves in a particular manner, charging the French horſe ſo often and ſo warmly, that more than half of their corps were killed upon the ſpot.

In the mean time the enemy fled towards Ghent, in inexpreſſible confuſion. The Duke of Vendome propoſed to the Duke of Burgundy, that, under favour of the night, they ſhould halt in order to form their troops, and give their march at leaſt the air of a retreat, but his advice was unheeded; for, of all the general officers preſent, only Count d'Eureux was of his ſentiment. Obſerving therefore that nothing was to be done with people frighted out of their wits, he gave the word for a retreat, which no ſooner ſlipped his lips, than the generals as well as the private men threw themſelves into the road of Ghent, with a precipitation unexampled. The Duke de Vendome looked with grief and ſhame on this ſcandalous behaviour; finding however twenty-five ſquadrons of his beſt troops, and about the ſame number of battalions, unbroken, he formed with theſe a rear-guard, and thereby preſerved the army from a ſecond defeat, which would certainly have been more fatal than the firſt. The Duke of Marlborough did not forget ſending troops enough to purſue: forty ſquadrons from the right were diſpatched at break of day with a good corps of foot, under the command of the Generals Bulau and Lumley. As a confuſed march is always ſlow, they came up very ſoon with the flying French, but they were able to do them no miſchief; they fled through a great road, the ſides of which the Duke de Vendome lined with his grenadiers, and covered their rear with his horſe. The allies, attempting to force twelve companies of grenadiers which were in the rear of all, were much more warmly received than they expected; for

Pents's

Pents's regiment of horſe was almoſt entirely cut to pieces, the grenadiers of Major Irwin were repulſed, and Major-general Meredith was wounded. War, ſays our author M. Dumont, is a very unſettled thing, and demands as much conduct as courage in thoſe who follow it; who could have believed that after ſo glorious and ſo complete a victory the victors themſelves ſhould receive the next day a check from an enemy beaten, flying, and aſtoniſhed? But indeed it was not ſo, thoſe who repulſed the allies were troops under the Duke de Vendome, who were never broken: ſuch as followed the Duke of Burgundy crowded the ſtreets of Ghent with themſelves and baggage, and never ſtopped till they were quite on the other ſide, where at laſt they began to think they were in ſome ſort of ſafety. After they were a little refreſhed, a council of war was held, in which the far greater part of the generals were of opinion that the princes ought immediately to take poſt for Ypres, and that the troops ſhould march that way as faſt as poſſible in order to join the Duke of Berwick. But as they were not now in the ſight of an enemy, nor in ſuch a ſituation that reaſon could not be heard; the Duke de Vendome therefore took this opportunity to give them his ſentiments at large. He ſaid he had been long enough paſſive under raſh and raw councils, of which they now ſaw the fruits; that in the ſituation they were in it was of the utmoſt conſequence to the king's ſervice, that no more blunders were made; that, as for the falſe ſteps already taken, thoſe who were the authors of them might anſwer for them, but for the reſt he would anſwer himſelf; that it was not to be doubted the allies would form ſome ſiege or other; and that, in order to give them diſquiet, the king's army muſt not be cooped up in lines, but remain in ſome poſt where they might at once enjoy proviſions and ſecurity; preſerve Ghent and Bruges, to which they were bound in honour; deprive the allies of the navigation of the Schelde,

cut off their communication with Antwerp, and keep the Dutch in continual terror for their own country. In order to all this he ſaid there was nothing more neceſſary than to encamp behind the canal of Ghent and Bruges, from whence, beſides the advantages beforementioned, they might eaſily diſturb the convoys going from Bruſſels: he concluded that this was not his opinion, but his reſolution; and then, turning to the generals, "For your parts, gentlemen, (ſaid he,) you have nothing to do but to get ready to march to-morrow to Lovendeghem, for there I intend my head-quarters ſhall be." This diſcourſe did not pleaſe the Duke of Burgundy; but, as he found his honour concerned, and knew, that, though the title was in him, the command was in the Duke de Vendome, he and his generals were forced to ſubmit: and thus, by the confeſſion of friends and enemies, Vendome ſaved the troops of France and France itſelf.

M. de Quincy, in his account of this battle, endeavours all he can to cover the Duke of Burgundy's miſtakes; he attributes the bad ſituation they were in at the beginning of the engagement, to their want of diligence in marching, affirming that, if they had been ſix hours ſooner on the banks of the Schelde, they would have prevented the allies, and ſaved that unfortunate engagement. He gives the higheſt commendations to the Duke of Marlborough, whom he allows to have been the ſoul of the confederate army, and to have forced victory to the ſide on which he fought, by his excellent diſpoſition of his troops, and his timely ſhifting corps of horſe and foot from places where they were uſeleſs into places where there was moſt need of them. He admits that the retreat was as precipitate and confuſed as any thing can be imagined; but, he takes notice of a ſtratagem made uſe of by the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene, after the battle was over, not mentioned by any Engliſh author: they poſted, according to this writer, a great number of drums

drums at the head of their troops, who beat the French retreat, while ſome refugee officers cried aloud, *Amoy, Picardie,* and ſo to the reſt of the French battalions, whereby numbers were taken priſoners who would otherwiſe have eſcaped. He confeſſes that the Duke de Vendome brought up the rear in perſon, but he ſeems afraid of entering deeply into the matter, though he gives us to underſtand in general terms, that their own faults were no leſs fatal to the French than the valour and conduct of the allies. It is much to the honour of M. de Quincy, that, in his account of this battle, he gives all due praiſe to our late king, then Electoral Prince of Hanover, and ſpeaks with the ſame candour of his vivacity in attacking the French at the head of Bulau's dragoons, as any of the Engliſh or Dutch writers.

As to the loſs ſuſtained by the French, accounts differ widely: the largeſt we have ſeen makes the killed and wounded 4200, the priſoners including officers 9800, and the deſerters 2400; in all 16,400, together with ten pieces of cannon, fifty-ſix pair of colours, fifty-two ſtandards, eight pair of kettle-drums, and 4500 horſes. An intercepted letter of a French officer ſpeaks on that head in the following terms:

"At leaſt forty of our regiments are reduced to a wretched condition, the greateſt part of them being killed or taken; ſo that it will be long before they can be re-eſtabliſhed. Of four regiments of the king's houſehold, at leaſt half are taken priſoners, and among them are ſeveral perſons of note. The Chevalier de Longueville and fifteen other officers were mortally wounded, and two of them are dead ſince the battle. The regiments of Pfiffer and Villars are quite ruined, and almoſt all their officers are taken, with all their baggage, &c. Amongſt the priſoners were above 700 officers, viz. a lieutenant-general, four major-generals, five brigadiers, fourteen colonels, nine majors, 206 captains, 147 lieutenants, ninety-ſix counts,

186 gens d'armes, or life-guards, and forty-seven quarter-masters: the Marquis de Ximenes, colonel of the regiment of Royal Rousillon, and the Sieur de la Breteche colonel of horse, with a great number of other officers, were killed."---Quincy has given us the following list of persons of distinction taken prisoners in this battle: The Marquis de Biron, lieutenant-general; Count Ruffey, lieutenant-general; M. Fitzgerald, marshal de camp; M. de la Vierve, marshal de camp and quarter-master general of horse; Marquis de Croy, Chevalier de Pouriere, and M. Phiffer brigadiers; the Duke de St. Aignan, colonel of horse, with eight or nine more colonels and other officers, to the number of 535, and 150 of the household troops, and about 7000 private men killed and taken.---As to the loss of the allies, there was a very exact account published, by which it appears that they had 825 men only killed, and 2147 wounded; in all 2972; of these the Dutch suffered most, having no less than 350 killed, and 1006 wounded; whereas of the British troops there were only forty-three killed and 104 wounded: so that, all things considered, this victory was as cheap as it was considerable.

The confederate generals were very assiduous in concerting measures for improving to the very utmost the victory they had gained; and it was resolved that Marlborough's army should march towards Menin, pass the Lys, there level the French lines between Warneton and Ypres, and prevent any re-inforcement from being thrown into the last-mentioned place, or the French army from returning that way; while Prince Eugene with a detachment should march to Brussels, and there draw together the Imperial forces in order to observe the motions of the Duke of Berwick, and prevent the Dukes of Burgundy and Berry from retreating through Brabant the same way they came.

Count Lottum, in pursuance of these resolutions, with lieutenant-generals Fagel and Dopf, marched on the

the 13th of July with thirty battalions, fifty squadrons, and some field pieces, for the French lines, where they arrived on the 15th, and took about 500 men, with twelve commissioned officers, prisoners, and began immediately to level them. The same day the Duke of Marlborough marched the army under his command in two columns towards Menin, passed the Lys on two bridges near that place, and encamped in the neighbourhood of Werwick. A detachment from the confederate army was sent to raise contributions as far as Arras; but, the magistrates of that country not agreeing to the sums demanded, the allies set fire to two of the suburbs of that city, and reduced them to ashes; after which a party was dispatched to do the same at Lens, but the inhabitants of that town prevented it by giving security to pay the sums demanded.---At the same time that Marlborough reaped these advantages from his late victory at Oudenarde, he took care to order things in such a manner as to make the French very uneasy in their camp behind the canal of Ghent, by sending detachments to interrupt their convoys from Tournay and other places. The chief reason of which was that the enemy's remaining there impeded very much the designs of the confederates, and obliged them to send back their baggage from Sas-van-Ghent, in order to bring it round from Antwerp to Brussels, by means of the canals; at the same time a new train of battering cannon was sent to the last-mentioned city from Maestricht, and all necessary preparations made for sending the heavy baggage to the camp, which was accordingly performed with unexampled prudence and success on the 25th of July.

The next day a numerous detachment, commanded in chief by Count Tilly, and under him by Lieutenant-generals Orkney, Rantzau, and Hompech, with the Major-generals Webb, Rantzau, and Erpach, were sent into Artois: the infantry which consisted of four battalions

battalions and 1000 grenadiers took poſt at la Baſſe, but the cavalry which conſiſted of fifty ſquadrons penetrated into Picardy, from whence it brought off ſeveral hoſtages, and did a great deal of miſchief, notwithſtanding the French made ſeveral motions to engage the Duke of Marlborough to recal them.

In revenge, however, of this irruption into France, the Dukes of Burgundy and Vendome, having provided for their army by carrying off all the corn in the country of Waes, as far as Aloſt, detached 10,000 men under the command of the Sieur du Rozel, to lay Dutch Flanders under contribution. General Fagel and Major-general Murray, who commanded there, finding themſelves too weak to defend their lines, abandoned them and retired to Sluys, which gave the enemy an opportunity of entering the iſland of Cadſant, which they plundered and burnt in a miſerable manner, carrying off 1200 horſes, a very rich booty in cattle and other things, and, what was ſtill worſe, they carried off hoſtages for the payment of a large ſum of money which they thought fit to demand, by way of balance perhaps for the ſums received by the allies in Artois and Picardy. Miſerable indeed is the ſituation of the peaceable inhabitants of a country the ſeat of war; and happy ought the people of Great Britain to eſteem themſelves, where theſe calamities ſo rarely happen! happy moreover, in having the liberty of grumbling continually, and of declaring themſelves oppreſſed and ruined, while they enjoy a degree of ſecurity and proſperity unexampled perhaps, in the preſent diſtracted ſtate of things, upon the face of the globe!

The confederate generals had by this time reſolved to make, without farther delay, ſome conſiderable ſiege, in order to which ſuch preparations were made at Bruſſels, as had never yet been ſeen, either in this or any former war. The future ſucceſs of all their great deſigns depending evidently on the ſafe arrival of a convoy,

a convoy, and the French on their ſide manifeſting a full reſolution to interrupt it, if poſſible, Prince Eugene gave on this occaſion an extraordinary proof of his conſummate knowledge in the art of war; for he took his meaſures ſo exactly, and poſted his ſeveral detachments ſo judiciouſly, that, though this convoy extended five leagues, and marched very ſlowly all the way, yet the Duke of Burgundy at the head of 30,000 men had the mortification to look on without being able to undertake any thing, and behold it get ſafe into Aeth. The Prince of Heſſe Caſſel had a great ſhare in this extraordinary march; but Prince Eugene himſelf advanced as far as Soignes, and gave all the neceſſary directions in perſon.

It being now pretty evident that the ſiege of Liſle was the enterprize for which the allies made ſuch mighty preparations, the French began immediately to take all imaginable precautions for its defence. But, in order to have a right idea of the importance of this grand undertaking, it will be neceſſary to give a deſcription of the place.

Liſle, or rather l'Iſle, is the capital of French Flanders; and in the opinion of ſome may be called the ſecond town in the French dominions. It was built by Baldwin earl of Flanders, or rather improved and erected into a city by him, becauſe he was born in its neighbourhood, and from thence called Baldwin Deliſle. It was walled in 1046, and met with ſo many favours from the ſovereigns of Flanders, that by degrees it became one of the fineſt towns in all that rich province. Louis XIV. reduced it in perſon in the year 1667. In the year 1668, it was yielded to him by the peace of Aix la Chapelle; and from that time the King of France ſpared neither pains nor coſt in fortifying and adorning it. The famous M. Vauban erected a citadel the moſt regular, and at the ſame time one of the ſtrongeſt, that had ever been ſeen, of which he remained governor to his death. The town itſelf was

alſo fortified in ſuch a manner that it was held impregnable. As to the ſituation of Liſle, it is in the midſt of rivulets, pools, and marſhes, whence its name *l'Iſle*, "the Iſland," though it is called by the Flemmings *Ryſſel*, and from its beauty and riches *le petit Paris*. It ſtands fifteen miles weſt of Tournay, eighteen north of Doway, thirty-ſix ſouth-weſt of Ghent, thirty-ſeven ſouth-eaſt of Dunkirk, and thirty-eight weſt of Mons.

As ſoon as this ſiege was apprehended, the Marſhal de Boufflers, governor of Flanders, demanded leave to ſhew his zeal for the king's ſervice, by defending it in perſon, which was given him. He had under him the Marquis de Sourville, M. de la Lande, Lieutenant-general Lee, and many other officers of note; ſixteen battalions of foot, nine ſquadrons of dragoons, and 800 invalids, who were yet capable of doing ſome duty. As ſoon as the marſhal entered the place, he took all imaginable pains to put it into the beſt poſture of defence poſſible; he cauſed ſuch ſoldiers as after the battle Oudenarde dropped into the villages adjoining, to be formed into four battalions, two of which were deſtined to attend the artillery, and the other two did duty with the garriſon. On the whole the French were ſo ſanguine, that they fancied the place out of danger; and the great Duke de Vendome himſelf is reported to have ſaid, "he did not think ſo wiſe a commander as Prince Eugene would venture on ſo raſh an undertaking."

All things being in readineſs, the Prince of Orange on the 12th of Auguſt was detached with thirty-one battalions to take poſt at Marquette, on the Lower Deule, within half a league of Liſle, and Lieutenant-general Wood with thirty four ſquadrons marched to Potteghem. The next day Prince Eugene having paſſed the Marque at Pont-à-treſin, inveſted Liſle between that place and the Upper Deule, while the Prince of Orange with his detachment inveſted it between the Upper and Lower Deule. The Duke of Marlborough

borough in the mean time formed at Helchin a camp of obſervation of 75,000 men, whereby he not only effectually covered Prince Eugene, but alſo ſecured Bruſſels and other great towns.

The ſiege of Liſle was carried on by two attacks, the firſt on the right of the Deule towards the gate of St. Andrew, the other againſt the gate of St. Magdalen; the one under the direction of the engineer de Roques, the other under that of M. du Mey. On the 14th the quarters were ſettled; on the ſixteenth the principal engineers pitched on a place between the Marque and the Deule, for the park of artillery; it conſiſted of 120 pieces of battering cannon, forty mortars, with 400 ammunition waggons. On the 18th a very extraordinary accident happened: as the Prince of Orange's valet de chambre was buttoning his highneſs's waiſtcoat, a cannon bullet ſtruck his head off, paſſing over the prince's ſhoulder, and beating the poor man's blood and brains all over the room. As ſome bullets had before pierced theſe apartments, his highneſs removed to the caſtle of Holbeck, Prince Eugene having fixed his quarters at the abbey of Loos. Marſhal Boufflers encamped his garriſon on the glacis of Liſle, and by detachments from thence incommoded the workmen of the allies very much. On the 19th King Auguſtus of Poland and the Landgrave of Heſſe Caſſel arrived in the army of the Duke of Marlborough, and ſaw the firſt line of the army paſs in review. On the 20th they ſaw the ſecond line reviewed, after which they ſet out for the ſiege, alighting at the quarters of Prince Eugene, where they were magnificently entertained.

All things were now ready for opening the trenches: 4000 workmen were appointed for that ſervice, covered by ten battalions of Imperial, Palatine, and Heſſian, troops; and ten battalions more with 600 horſe were ordered to be ready to ſuſtain them. On the 23d Marſhal Boufflers made a ſally to diſturb the workmen,

and was ſo lucky as to take ſome priſoners, amongſt whom was M. Pettendorf, a lieutenant-general who commanded in the trenches, and who had advanced a little too far. The marſhal received him with great civility, and aſſigned him lodgings in the citadel. On the 24th Prince Eugene gave orders for attacking a chapel from whence they were much diſturbed in the trenches: this was performed by 300 grenadiers, commanded by a major and two captains; they were ſuſtained by ſome battalions, and the attack was very warm and bloody. The French had in it 200 grenadiers commanded by two captains: the officers were both killed, with about fifty men, and the reſt taken priſoners. On the 25th M. de Boufflers cauſed a mill to be burnt, where otherwiſe the allies would have taken poſt. On the 26th a very black attempt was made on the perſon of Prince Eugene. The poſt-houſe being about two leagues diſtant from the camp, the commiſſary wrote a letter to General Dopf's ſecretary, by a ſervant that gentleman had ſent in the morning for his letters, in which letter the commiſſary deſired him to deliver two that were encloſed to his highneſs, becauſe he had no poſt-boy at hand to ſend them by. General Dopf being then at the prince's quarters, the ſecretary gave thoſe letters to his adjutant, who gave them to Prince Eugene. One of theſe letters came from the Hague, and the commiſſary imagined the other came from thence alſo. The prince, opening one of theſe epiſtles, found in it nothing but a greaſy paper, which, without any ſhow of concern, he threw upon the ground. The adjutant, taking it up, put it to his noſe, but was immediately taken ſo ill that they had much ado to ſave his life. It was then tied about a dog's neck, and, though the creature had the beſt antidotes adminiſtered, it died in twenty-four hours in a miſerable condition. General Dopf, and ſome other perſons of diſtinction who were in the room where the prince opened the letter, expreſſing their concern

that

that there ſhould be people in the world baſe enough to undertake ſuch things, his highneſs ſaid very coolly, "Gentlemen, you need not wonder ſo much at it, this is not the firſt billet of its ſort I have received."---It would be tedious to give an exact detail of the ſiege, becauſe it would take up much more room than the bounds we are preſcribed will allow; we ſhall content ourſelves therefore with obſerving, that never any ſiege was carried on with greater vigour, nor any place defended with greater bravery and boldneſs; but Boufflers became quickly ſenſible from the prodigious fire made by the beſiegers that the town muſt inevitably fall into their hands; on which account he removed in time his beſt cannon into the citadel, though at the ſame time he neglected nothing that could be done for the defence of the town; giving notice alſo to the French court that it was impoſſible for him to hold out againſt ſuch an army and ſuch a train of artillery, and therefore entreating them to think in time of affording him relief. The court of France diſpatched orders to the Dukes of Burgundy and Vendome to hazard any thing for the relief of ſo important a place as Liſle. Upon this thoſe princes reſolved, if poſſible, to join the Duke of Berwick, in order to which ſome motions were made by them and by the flying camp commanded by that laſt-mentioned duke. The Duke of Marlborough, having received advice of the enemy's march, immediately repaſſed the Schelde and returned to his old camp at Helchin, where he was hardly arrived before he had an account that the Duke of Berwick had paſſed the Dender that morning and joined the Duke of Burgundy, ſo that their forces were now increaſed to 208 ſquadrons and 126 battalions. The Duke of Marlborough apprehending that the enemy did now in earneſt think of attempting to raiſe the ſiege, and knowing that his own army was far inferior to that of the enemy, diſpatched orders to General Fagel to join him with all imaginable expedition with what forces

could be ſpared out of Dutch Flanders and Brabant. In the mean time his grace broke up from Helchin and marched into the plains of Liſle, where on the 1ſt of September he fixed his head-quarters at Peronne.

The marſhal de Boufflers knowing well enough, by the motions of the allies, that they were making the diſpoſitions neceſſary for attacking the covered-way, prepared to defend it as well as he was able. He held a council of war, in which the Marquis of Sourville and M. Lee, lieutenant-generals, the M. de Freſelliere, who commanded the artillery, and the other principal officers of the garriſon, aſſiſted, in order to determine after what manner the troops ſhould be diſpoſed on this occaſion. After ſome debate, Marſhal Boufflers deſired the Marquis de Freſelliere to draw up a diſpoſition in writing, which he engaged ſhould be exactly put into execution; one point only, at the deſire of ſome general officers, was changed; for, inſtead of 300 men which the marquis directed in each tenaillon, in order to ſally by the ſaliant angles of the counterſcarp, they allowed but half the number, which, as we ſhall ſee, proved fatal to them, the allies making themſelves maſters of thoſe angles for want of men.

About eight o'clock in the evening of the 7th of September the ſignal was given from the confederate camp by a general diſcharge from all the batteries. The troops deſigned for the attack on the left marched out of the trenches with all the intrepidity imaginable; they moved directly towards the paliſades, from whence they drove the French in a very ſhort time; upon which the enemy ſprung three mines, which did prodigious execution; at laſt however the beſiegers poſſeſſed themſelves of the ſaliant angle of the counterſcarp of the horn-work. The attack on the right was likewiſe performed with incredible bravery, and the troops continued to advance, notwithſtanding the warm reception they met with; there likewiſe they ſeized the ſaliant angle of the counterſcarp, which perhaps they could

not

not have done if the 300 grenadiers had been allowed according to Freſilliere's project. It coſt the allies, according to the moſt moderate computation, between 3000 and 4000 men killed and wounded, and was one of the briſkeſt actions which happened during the war. King Auguſtus of Poland, the Prince of Orange, Prince Eugene, and the Hereditary Prince of Heſſe, were ſpectators of this action, which, no doubt, contributed not a little to invigorate the troops. A miſunderſtanding happening between the two chief engineers, together with great want of ammunition, however much retarded the ſiege, and created great diffidence in the minds of many of the general officers, notwithſtanding the indefatigable care of Prince Eugene, who was continually employed in diſpoſing every thing for the facilitating an undertaking in which his honour was ſo much concerned.

The French generals fatigued themſelves in contriving means to diſtreſs the confederate army in ſuch a manner as to oblige Prince Eugene to raiſe the ſiege of Liſle: in order to this they at laſt found out means to engage ſome of the townſmen at Aeth in a conſpiracy to deliver up that town, while on the other hand they were indefatigable in concerting meaſures for cutting off the convoys, of which the camp before Liſle ſtood in need. The former ſcheme of their's came to nothing; for, before the conſpiracy at Aeth was ripe for execution, it was diſcovered. In the latter part of their deſign however they were more ſucceſsful; for, after various motions of both armies, they began to throw up lines for ſecuring the paſſages of the Schelde, and worked at them ſo hard, that they appeared rather like the fortifications of a town than retrenchments thrown up in haſte, notwithſtanding they were ſeventy miles in extent; they erected alſo, wherever they thought them neceſſary, batteries, and, caſting up a line from the hill near Oudenarde to Ename, they entirely incloſed the firſt-mentioned town on that ſide of the river,

river, and cut off the communication of the confederates with Bruſſels, and, what was much worſe, deprived them of all intercourſe with Holland. The Duke of Burgundy was very uneaſy for want of intelligence from Liſle, which put an officer in his army, one Captain Duboys, on one of the boldeſt enterprizes perhaps ever undertaken by a ſingle man; he determined in himſelf to attempt getting into the city, notwithſtanding the ſtrict guards kept by the beſiegers, and he was ſo lucky as to ſucceed. He then undreſſed himſelf, and, having hid his clothes, ſwam over ſeven canals and ditches, and ſo got into the town. Marſhal Boufflers, having provided him clothes, conducted him to both the attacks, ſhewed him the condition all things were in, and, having written a letter to his highneſs, he rolled it up in wax, which the captain put in his mouth: then he reſigned the ſuit the marſhal had given him, ſwam over the ſame ditches, dreſſed himſelf on the other ſide in the clothes he left behind him, and returned ſafe to the Duke of Burgundy with the intelligence he wanted. The French ſay, that Marſhal Boufflers acquainted the Duke of Burgundy by this gentleman, that, if the allies could be but diſappointed of one convoy, the ſiege muſt be raiſed; and that at all events he would undertake that the place ſhould hold out to the 6th or 10th of October.

Prince Eugene, finding things in a proper ſituation by the 19th of September, reſolved to ſtorm the outworks on the left of the hornwork of the gate of St. Andrew, that part of the tenaille which lay next that attack, the covered way in the front of the breach, and the place of arms before the ravelin on the hornwork; on the right, that part of the tenaille on that ſide, and the counterſcarp to the ravelin from the gate of St. Magdalen to the Deule. The aſſault was intended to be made the twentieth in the evening; but, the enemy having burnt the galleries and bridges which were to be made uſe of therein, it was for this reaſon

put

put off to the 21ſt. About half paſt ſix the trenches were relieved bly Lieutenant-general Wilke, Major-general Saiken, and Sir Richard Temple, with the uſual number of battalions, the ſignal being given by a general diſcharge from the batteries, and the mines on the right and left ſprung with good ſucceſs; the grenadiers marched out with great intrepidity, mounted the breach of the tenaille on the right, obliged the enemy to retire into the retrenchment of that work, and made there a good lodgment. On the left they had ſtill greater ſucceſs, for they poſſeſſed themſelves of a place of arms on the counterſcarp of the tenaille, and beat the enemy out of the counterſcarp before the grand breach, ſo that here they made two lodgments; but on a ſudden the enemy came down in ſuch numbers, that the officers who commanded this party of the allies, with a conſiderable number of his men, were preſently killed, the lodgments ruined, and the reſt of the grenadiers obliged to retire. Prince Eugene, ſeeing this, and believing that his preſence would re-animate the grenadiers, came out of the trenches, and, as the French accounts ſay, rallied them thrice, advancing at their head, till he received a wound by a muſquet ſhot, which, grazing over his left eye, beat off his hat; the Prince of Heſſe Caſſel, who was near him, took his own hat, which was likewiſe ſhot through and through, and put it upon Prince Eugene's head, who was then prevailed on to retire, in order to have his wound dreſſed. This action certainly coſt the allies very dear; probably M. Quincy carries it too high, when he rates it at 5000 men; it was however, ſo conſiderable, that the Duke of Marlborough ſent next day a reinforcement of grenadiers from his army. He came the ſame morning to pay Prince Eugene a viſit, and was greatly ſurpriſed to find him juſt ready to mount on horſeback. His grace and King Auguſtus of Poland with much ado prevailed upon him to deſiſt, and to keep his chamber till his wound was healed.

healed. The States General took this opportunity of remonſtrating to his highneſs, by their deputies, that, his life being of the utmoſt conſequence to all Europe, they thought it their duty to conjure him to be more careful for the future, and not to expoſe his perſon ſo freely as hitherto he had done. Not only theſe deputies, but ſeveral of the general officers in his own army, adviſed his highneſs to raiſe the ſiege; but that was a thing he would never hear of, declaring it to be his ſettled reſolution to remain before the place with his own troops, and with them to continue the ſiege.---- On the 23d an attack was made on the tenaille on the left, by a detachment of 300 grenadiers from the grand army, ſupported by 120 others, and 270 fuzileers. On the attack of the right there was 100 grenadiers ſupported by 280 others, and 270 fuzileers. All things being in readineſs, and the Duke of Marlborough himſelf in the trenches, he gave the ſignal for the attack, which was made with as much vigour and ſucceſs as could be expected, though not without conſiderable effuſion of blood; however, the enemy being beaten from their poſt, a new lodgment was made, and the former enlarged along the covered-way. The duke returned that night to his own army, but came back the next day to that which carried on the ſiege.

In the condition things were in, it has ſince paſſed for a miracle amongſt ſuch as have been verſed in military affairs, that the ſiege of Liſle was ſtill continued, and continued too with ſucceſs. The army of obſervation, which was properly under the Duke of Marlborough, was continually alarmed by the motions of the Dukes of Burgundy and Vendome. The army before Liſle on the other hand, notwithſtanding the prodigious convoys it had received, was in ſuch diſtreſs for ammunition and other neceſſaries, that for want of a further ſupply all things were at a ſtand. It was very lucky that Boufflers and his garriſon were pretty near in the ſame ſituation, through the length of the ſiege

if we believe the M. de Quincy, through the miſmanagement of the marſhal if we credit M. Feuquieres. Both ſides were now therefore put upon thinking, and that with the deepeſt attention, how theſe evils might be remedied; and in ſome meaſure both ſucceeded. The Duke of Marlborough no ſooner found the communication with Bruſſels cut off, but he formed a deſign of opening a new one by the way of Oſtend; for, Prince Eugene taking upon him to be reſponſible for the ſucceſs of the ſiege provided he was ſupplied with ammunition, the Duke of Marlborough on the other hand undertook that he ſhould have it: in order to this, his grace ſent 700 waggons under a ſtrong guard to Oſtend, where the Dutch commiſſary, not having a ſufficient quantity of ammunition, borrowed ſeveral hundred barrels of powder, and alſo gave directions to drain the country between Oſtend and Newport, and ordered a bridge to be thrown over the canal of Leſſingen, by which means he opened a communication with the grand army and a way for the convoy to paſs. But let us firſt ſee by what means Boufflers procured the ſupply of powder he ſo much wanted.

M. de Boufflers made choice of the Chevalier de Luxembourg, as the moſt proper for effecting what he deſired; and, having informed him of his wants, that general gave him notice that he would endeavour to introduce the ſuccours he requeſted by the gate of Nôtre Dame; the better to conceal his deſign, he threw into Doway, Arras, and Bethune, a reinforcement of troops, moſtly horſe, under pretence of impeding the incurſions of the allies into Artois and Flanders, and in the mean time made the neceſſary preparations at Doway, for the execution of the deſign he had formed. On the 28th of September, the gates of Doway being ſhut to prevent any one giving intelligence, the Chevalier de Luxembourg marched with 2000 horſe, dragoons and carbineers, every trooper having behind him ſixty pounds weight of powder,

every dragoon and carbineer three fuzils and a quantity of flints. This body, marching ſlowly, arrived between nine and ten at night at a barrier of the lines of circumvallation: the centinel immediately called out, *qui vive*, on which they anſwered "Dutch from the army of Marlborough;" and, as the officer who was at their head knew exactly the names of the regiments that were out on parties, and ſpoke the language well, he had no great trouble in perſuading the officer of the guard to open the barrier, eſpecially when he told him that he brought powder for the beſiegers, and that he was purſued by a detachment from the French army: 1800 or 1900 men had paſſed the barrier, when an officer of Luxembourg's detachment cried out imprudently, *ferre, ferre*, i. e. "ſhut, ſhut;" the officer of the guard thereupon commanded them to halt, and, not being obeyed, he fired upon them; and, two or three ſacks of powder blowing up, they had time to ſhut the barrier, about ſixty men and ſeveral horſes being burnt, and the reſt of the troops were obliged to gallop back to Doway as hard as they could. At the noiſe of the fire, ſome dragoons and other troops who were poſted next to the barrier purſued the French, as well thoſe who were got in as thoſe who were fled towards Doway; however, Luxembourg entered at the gate of Nôtre Dame with 1800 men, and, as the French ſay, 80,000 pounds weight of powder, and 1200 hundred fuſils; but perhaps this account is a little ſwelled, and we may be nearer the truth if we take half that quantity of powder. In the retreat of thoſe who took the road of Doway, the Marquis de Bethune, a lieutenant-colonel, a major, a captain, and two ſubalterns, were taken priſoners, with twenty-five troopers; and about 100 were killed. The Chevalier de Luxembourg, foreſeeing that ſome ſuch accident as fell out might poſſibly happen, put himſelf in the front of his detachment, that if any got into Liſle he might be among the number; directing

ing his ſecretary however to remain in the rear of all; and, as ſoon as he had ſeen how things went, to ride back with all poſſible expedition to Doway, and from thence diſpatch two couriers, one to the king, the other to the Duke of Burgundy, with exact accounts of the affair, which inſtructions the ſecretary followed very exactly. The French king no ſooner received the account, than he promoted the Chevalier de Luxembourg to the rank of a lieutenant-general. Quincy, in his military hiſtory, takes no notice of any accident befalling that part of the detachment which paſſed the barrier; but the Prince of Heſſe, in his letter dated the day after this attempt was made, ſays, that there were three great exploſions of powder heard in the camp, the laſt ſo great that it ſhook the ground, which his highneſs ſays was occaſioned by the blowing up of a great number of ſacks powder at the very gate of Nôtre Dame; which firſt falling to the ground by the troops preſſing to get in, were afterwards trampled under the horſes feet, and at laſt ſet on fire by the ſparks ſtruck by their ſhoes out of the ſtones. His highneſs adds that it was a dreadful ſpectacle to ſee the way ſtrewed with dead carcaſſes, horſes heads, arms, legs half burnt; this ſhews that the expedition was not altogether ſo fortunate as the French make it; but it no way detracts from the merit of the Chevalier de Luxembourg, who ſhewed his conſummate ſkill in military affairs, in forming ſo judicious a project as this, for paſſing through the camp of a general famed for vigilance, and carrying ſo great a ſuccour into a place ſo ſtraitly beſieged.---We are now to attend to the ſucceſs of Marlborough's convoy of ammunition to the beſiegers. That general, conceiving that the ſix battalions and 800 horſe detached under Brigadier Landſberg would not be a ſufficient guard for that convoy which he expected, afterwards detached Brigadier Starkenberg with ten ſquadrons more, and on further intelligence General Els with ſix battalions for the ſame

purpoſe; and, on the 26th, by break of day, he ſent Major-general Webb with Count Naſſau Woudenburg, a brigadier, and ſon to Field-marſhal d'Auverquerque, with twelve battalions and ſome ſquadrons, with orders to march within four leagues of Leffingen, in order to oppoſe the enemy if they ſhould attack the convoy; and the night following he detached Major-general Cadogan with eighteen ſquadrons to meet the convoy on their paſſing the canal of Bruges.---The Duke of Burgundy, in the mean while, ſent orders to the Count de la Motte to abandon all other deſigns, and to march immediately towards Bruſſels, in order to attack the convoy; but, notwithſtanding all the diligence of the count, the troops of the allies ſecured the poſts of Leffingen and Oudenbourg. The Duke of Burgundy then ſent M. Berwick with a great body of troops to ſupport la Motte; but, having by theſe detachments extremely weakened the grand army, he was forced to throw up new entrenchments before thoſe paſſages of the Schelde which he apprehended to be in moſt danger; and the neceſſity of theſe works put an end to all the ſchemes his highneſs had formed for attacking of Bruſſels and other places, for which, however, preparations had been made at Mons and Doway at an immenſe expence.

Major-general Webb, having maturely weighed the ſituation of things, advanced towards Oſtend, from whence on the 26th he detached 600 grenadiers, and two battalions, under the command of Brigadier Landſberg, to ſuſtain Major Savary, who had taken poſſeſſion of the poſt of Oudenbourg, which was of very great conſequenee, for the next day it was attacked by a great detachment of French, who were repulſed with loſs.

On the 27th the convoy ſet out from Oſtend, and paſſed the canal at Leffingen, of which the Count de la Motte having intelligence, he detached Brigadier Villemort with 1200 foot and 300 horſe, in order to

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cut off the convoy there; but the detachment which attended it gave the brigadier such a check, that he was forced to retire without effecting any thing.

The 28th, all the cavalry of the allies was detached to Hoogled to attend the convoy, excepting 150 horse which remained at Oudenbourg, under the command of Count Lottum, who, with the two battalions and 600 grenadiers, was ordered to escort the convoy to Cocklaer, and to rejoin the infantry at Tourout. In consequence of these dispositions, the convoy advanced under its escort commanded by Major-general Cadogan, with an intent to gain the wood of Wynendale, Major-general Webb intending to have posted all the infantry detached from the army of the Duke of Marlborough, and which had been landed at Ostend, in a lower way, which he apprehended to be the only place where the French could make any attempt on the convoy with probable hopes of success. Towards noon Count Lottum joined him, and gave him intelligence that the enemy was advancing. This brought on the famous battle of Wynendale, so called from a little town adjoining to a wood, eleven miles south of Bruges, and twenty-eight north of Lisle. The following account of that remarkable action, one of the most glorious and best conducted in all the war, was written by Webb himself, presented to her majesty, and afterwards published by authority in the London Gazette:

As soon as Count Lottum had reported that the enemy were advancing, "all the foot, consisting of twenty-two battalions, Count Lottum with his 150 horse making the advanced-guard, with the quarter-masters and grenadiers that were not detached, were ordered to march immediately to gain the village of Ichtegem by the way of Wynendale. As soon as the advanced-guard got to Wynendale, they perceived the enemy in the opening of the plain; whereupon the quarter-masters and grenadiers were drawn up in order

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of battle. Major-general Webb, and Count Naſſau Woudenburg at the head of 150 horſe, advancing to reconnoitre the enemy, giving orders at the ſame time to the foot to advance, and form themſelves as faſt as poſſible in the plain. The 150 horſe were left at the opening of the plain, under the command of Count Lottum, to amuſe the enemy; and, to embarraſs them the more, the quarter-maſters and grenadiers were poſted in a low coppice on that ſide of the plain where the enemy were expected to paſs.

"As ſoon as our troops paſſed the defile into the plain, Major-general Webb (who as eldeſt major-general commanded in chief) drew them up in order of battle, poſting them in the opening between the wood of Wynendale and the coppice on the other ſide, where the quarter-maſters and grenadiers were poſted. We had ſcarcely got ſix battalions into the opening when the enemy began to cannonade us with forty pieces of cannon, ten whereof were of three bores. But, notwithſtanding the great fire of the enemy, the 150 horſe kept their ground, which produced the deſired effect, in giving the general time to form his foot in two lines. The left wing was extended beyond the low coppice, as well to prevent the enemy from paſſing that way, as to cover our flank. On our right flank was poſted, in the wood of Wynendale, the regiment of Henkelum; and on our flank, on the left, the regiment of the hereditary Prince of Pruſſia, commanded by Colonel Rhader, with orders not to diſcover themſelves nor fire, till they could take the enemy in flank. Some platoons of grenadiers were advanced forty paces upon the right and left with the ſame orders; and the quarter-maſters were alſo poſted in a road on the left, that croſſed through the afore-mentioned low coppice.

"The enemy, after three hours cannonading, advanced towards us on the plain in twelve lines, ſix whereof were foot, and ſix horſe; Count Lottum was hereupon ordered to retire and poſt himſelf 300 paces behind

behind the foot, which he did in very good order. The French continued to march ſtraight up to us with forty battalions and ſixty ſquadrons; but, the general perceiving they extended themſelves to the right in the coppice, he ſent Count Naſſau to obſerve their motion, who immediately ordered thither the regiment of Grumkau commanded by Colonel Beſchefer; and Brigadier Els, being come up with the laſt regiment, was poſted on the right in the wood of Wynendale.

"About half a quarter of an hour before the engagement began, Brigadier Landſberg, with the two battalions and 600 grenadiers which had been detached, having advice that the enemy advanced to attack us, rejoined us juſt time enough to form a third line. Some minutes after the enemy began the attack, marching within a hundred and fifty paces of our flank on the right, where the battalions, who hid themſelves, according to the general's order, and who were not to fire till the French flank came oppoſite to them, gave them ſuch a warm welcome, that their left wing gave into their center; and the regiment of the hereditary prince, which was poſted on the flank on our left, much about the ſame diſtance, did not miſs the opportunity of their diſorder, to give them a very vigorous diſcharge, which put their whole line in confuſion. Nevertheleſs, the enemy puſhed on, and put two of our battalions in diſorder; but the Swiſs regiment of Albemarle, under the command of Colonel Hirtzel, advancing upon their horſe that were endeavouring to penetrate, engaged them long enough to give time to the general and Count Naſſau to bring up the regiments of Bernſdorf, Gauvain, and Lindeboom, to ſupply the room of thoſe that were preſſed, which was done in a moment. However, the enemy, ſupported by ſo many lines, made another attempt to penetrate; but our battalions rather advanced than gave way, though the general gave orders againſt advancing, fearing leſt that might render the fire of our flanks uſeleſs. This precaution

caution had all the desired success; the regiments and grenadiers making such a continual fire, as forced their two wings upon their centre, and obliged the whole to retire in the greatest confusion, notwithstanding all the efforts their officers could make, by encouragement or violence, to keep them up; so that they only fired at a great distance on our lines, which ours returned, advancing by platoons, as at their exercise, with all the order imaginable.

"Major-general Cadogan, who came up some time after the action began, offered to charge the enemy in their disorder with two squadrons of horse, the other four which he had sent for not being arrived till near seven at night; but it was not thought advisable to expose so small a number to charge the enemy, who had brought up all their horse to favour their retreat. The battle lasted two hours, and was very hot, in which we had 912, officers and soldiers, killed and wounded. The enemy, as we are assured by letters from Ghent and Bruges, and by report of prisoners and deserters, lost between 6000 and 7000 men. They made their retreat in so great confusion that they left most of their cannon in a wood, which they did not carry off till next day at eleven o'clock, after hearing that our convoy had passed Rousselaer. We remained on the field of battle till two o'clock the next morning, having first carried off all our wounded and several of the enemy. This victory is the more surprising, as by reason of several detachments we had not above 6000 men in the action, and the enemy by their own accounts had 24,000 men."

Quincy, whom we have so often quoted in this work, allows that the troops under the command of the Count de la Motte were greatly superior to those under the command of General Webb, to whom he clearly ascribes the honour of this day; though he endeavours to palliate the matter with respect to the count, whose orders, according to him, were very

indifferently obeyed. M. Feuquieres, who ſpeaks with greater freedom, has given us in few words an inimitable account of this buſineſs, written with all the fire of an honeſt old officer, who wiſhed well to his country, and which will, in all probability, perpetuate the fame of M. de la Motte to all poſterity: "I ſhall not," ſays M. Feuquieres, repeat here the reaſons which have been offered for the convoy's going in ſafety from Oſtend to the camp before Liſle. That which to me ſeems the cleareſt, and which beſt accounts for the matter, is the incapacity of M. de la Motte, who was charged to diſturb this convoy in its march, which he not only failed to do with a body of troops infinitely ſuperior to its eſcort, but alſo found a way to have his troops beaten by that feeble eſcort. A moſt extraordinary event ſurely! for, though we have often heard of convoys that have paſſed ſafe with a ſmall guard, through the diligence and ſecrecy of their march, yet it was never before ſeen that a convoy attacked by a body of troops infinitely ſuperior to its eſcort, not only got ſafe off, but that its feeble eſcort beat the ſuperior body of troops which attacked it: this wonderful adventure was reſerved for M. de la Motte!"

The convoy from Oſtend paſſed through the Duke of Marlborough's army on the 30th of September, and arrived ſafe in the camp before Liſle the next day. Prince Eugene appeared the ſame day abroad for the firſt time after his wound. He did all in his power to revive the ſpirits of the troops, which were very much ſunk through the length of the ſiege and the difficulties and hardſhips thereof. On the 3d of October the Duke of Marlborough arrived in the camp before Liſle, and a detachment from his army of 300 grenadiers joined a detachment of the grenadiers from the trenches, and about noon made a vigorous attack on the outworks, which ſucceeded perfectly well; the enemy, not expecting any ſuch action till evening, were

altogether unprepared, their men being in such confusion, that, instead of properly defending the place, they leaped into the ditches, where most of them were either killed or drowned. By this means the besiegers by half an hour after one made a lodgment on the ravelin, and possessed themselves of the two counter-guards, where they took two pieces of cannon.

Soon after another considerable supply of ammunition, as well from Great Britain as Holland, arrived at Ostend; and on the 12th the Duke of Marlborough detached Major-general Cadogan with eight battalions and nine squadrons to Cocklaer, as well to escort it as to assist in getting it in over the inundations, which was no easy task, considering the pains the enemy took to keep the country, as much as in them lay, under water. Brigadier Grumkau was also detached with five battalions more to sustain Major-general Cadogan, if it should be necessary. On the 14th 500 barrels of powder passed through the Duke of Marlborough's army for the camp before Lisle; and the same day General Fagel was detached with twelve battalions and twenty squadrons to sustain General Cadogan and Brigadier Grumkau.

The Duke de Vendome, observing, in spite of all his care, that, if the allies remained masters of Leffingen, they would preserve a communication with Ostend, notwithstanding all the inundations, he determined therefore to reduce that place, though it cost a siege; and the rather, because he was advised from Dunkirk that there was in that place a very considerable quantity of powder and other ammunition. M. de Puiguion was charged with this enterprize; the trenches were opened in the night between the 20th and the 21st, and the siege was carried on with all possible vigour. Lieutenant-colonel Rapin and Major Hemert defended it with prodigious valour, killing a great number of the enemy in their trenches, and taking

ſome officers priſoners, amongſt the reſt the Chevalier de Croiſſy, marſhal de camp, who offered the Engliſh grenadier that ſeized him 200 piſtoles and a captain's commiſſion in a French regiment, if he would go off with him; the ſoldier, however, reſiſted the temptation, alleging the diſhonour that would attend ſuch conduct; and aſking him at the ſame time, how, when raiſed to the rank of a captain, he could look his general in the face for whom he had fought for ſo many years? This inſtance of fidelity weighed ſo much with Prince Eugene and the Duke of Marlborough, that the former made him a preſent, and the latter gave him a captain's commiſſion.---The troops encamped near Oſtend, under the command of General Erle, having an open communication with the garriſon, it was relieved by Colonel Caulfeild with 1250 freſh men. The night between the 25th and 26th, M. de Puiguion being informed that the garriſon were making great rejoicings for the ſurrender of Liſle, he cauſed the place to be attacked. It was begun by a prodigious fire from the battery near the trenches, in order to draw the attention of the beſiegers on that ſide, while a great detachment of grenadiers marched by two different routes without noiſe, to cut off their communication with Oſtend. Theſe forces were conſtrained to wade through ſeveral ditches, and to paſs ſeveral moraſſes in a night of heavy rain, and ſo dark that they could ſcarcely diſtinguiſh one another. As ſoon as they gave notice by a ſignal, of their having taken poſt behind the place, M. de Puiguion cauſed it to be attacked in front, at the ſame time the grenadiers on the ſide of Oſtend attacked the retrenchments next them, and put to the ſword a guard of about fifty Engliſh, who were neither well awake nor ſober. They entered the place ſword in hand, crying, *Tue, tue.* The garriſon were all drunk, the officers a-bed and aſleep, ſo that thoſe who commanded the French troops repreſſed the rage of the ſoldiery, and would not ſuffer

any blood to be ſhed, but received them all priſoners at diſcretion. Quincy ſays there were 800 Engliſh and 400 Dutch, excluſive of a colonel, two lieutenant-colonels, thirty-two captains, and a great number of ſubaltern officers; they found likewiſe a conſiderable magazine of powder and ammunition and 80,000 or 90,000l. in ready money, which was deſigned for the payment of the troops. This, though a briſk well-executed attempt, made a poor amends for the loſs of Liſle, of which we are now to ſpeak.

The Marſhal de Boufflers, perceiving that the allies advanced ſucceſsfully, and that they received conſtantly new ſupplies of ammunition and proviſions, notwithſtanding all the promiſes that he received from the army that their communication ſhould be entirely cut off with Holland and the Netherlands, and obſerving that all things neceſſary for a general ſtorm were on the point of being finiſhed, he on the 22d came to a reſolution for beating the chamade, after having ſuſtained a ſiege of ſixty days open trenches, which was accordingly done at four o'clock in the afternoon the ſame day. Hoſtages being exchanged, thoſe from the town were conducted to the Abbey de Marquet, where the quarters of Prince Eugene were; his highneſs entertained them ſplendidly, and afterwards wrote a billet to the Marſhal de Boufflers, in which, after complimenting him on his gallant defence, he told him that, as he was a brave man and an experienced officer, he would leave the terms of the capitulation to himſelf, notwithſtanding things were almoſt reduced to extremity; which civility his highneſs declared to be perſonal, and done merely in regard of the marſhal's conduct during the ſiege. The capitulation was conſequently honourable for the French, and none of its articles extravagant with reſpect to the allies. The horſe and dragoons which had entered the town under the command of the Chevalier de Luxembourg were permitted to return to Doway, and the reſt of the garriſon

riſon was allowed to enter the citadel. Boufflers left a commiſſary as a hoſtage for the payment of the debts contracted by his moſt chriſtian majeſty during the ſiege. The magazines of ammunition and proviſions were delivered up to perſons appointed by his highneſs, and all the mines were ſhewn them to prevent any accident which might have happened after the confederates taking poſſeſſion of the town. Leave was alſo given to the M. Boufflers to ſend an officer with the capitulation to the Duke of Burgundy; and the Prince of Holſtenbeck entered the town with twenty-five battalions, Prince Eugene having conferred on him the government of the place.

It is not eaſy to give even a tolerable account of the loſs ſuſtained on both ſides during this long and bloody ſiege; that of the allies is by a Dutch writer computed at 3632 killed and 8322 wounded. M. de Quincy allows that the beſieged loſt about 5000 men; but it is probable that it did not amount to leſs than 7000.

The famous Field-marſhal d'Auverquerque did not live to ſee the ſurrender of Liſle; as he ſpent his days in camps and armies, and was worn out more with fatigue than years, ſo he continued to the laſt to diſcharge the duties of his function, till after four days ſickneſs he died in his quarters at Rouſſelaer four days before the ſurrender of Liſle. His loſs was much regretted, eſpecially by the Dutch, who thereby were not only deprived of a good officer, but an able ſtateſman and true patriot. He was in the ſixty-ſeventh year of his age, and particularly remarkable for his diſintereſtedneſs and for his generous contempt of money in the execution of his high dignity as commander in chief of the forces of the States, which on his death fell proviſonally to the Count de Tilly, the eldeſt lieutenant-general in their ſervice.

Great endeavours were uſed to prevail on Marſhal de Boufflers to ſurrender the citadel of Liſle without fatiguing the army of the allies by a new ſiege; to this end

end the ceſſation of arms between the garriſon in the citadel and the allies, which expired on the 25th, was continued for three days; but, the terms demanded by the marſhal being thought unreaſonable, hoſtilities were begun on the 29th on both ſides, the allies reſolving to proceed by ſap, and the Marſhal de Boufflers making a prodigious fire from the artillery of the place. The 2d of November nine battalions from the Duke of Marlborough's army joined that commanded by Prince Eugene. On the 9th the Marſhal de Boufflers made a ſally, but was repulſed with a conſiderable loſs; the Prince de Beveren however had the misfortune to be wounded in the head by a muſket-ſhot, and was carried to Aix la Chapelle, in order to be cured. On the 11th the beſiegers made themſelves maſters of part of the covered-way, but in the night Prince Eugene being in the trenches very narrowly eſcaped being killed, one of his aid de camps being ſhot at his ſide, the ball paſſing very near his highneſs. On the 12th the beſiegers ſprung a mine which did conſiderable execution, after which the Chevalier de Luxembourg made a ſally, and did a good deal of miſchief, but was in the end repulſed; and on the 13th the allies made themſelves maſters of the whole counterſcarp, except two places of arms, which the French afterwards abandoned. On the 17th a lodgement was perfected on one of theſe places of arms; and, the Prince of Orange and the Duke of Holſtein going to viſit the trenches, M. du Mey, a lieutenant-colonel that attended them, was killed by a muſket ſhot. On the 20th the allies made a lodgment on the glacis, and the Marquis de Surville, who commanded the French troops on duty on the covered-way, advancing a little too far, was ſhot through the body by a muſket-ball. The Marſhal de Boufflers made a very briſk ſally immediately afterwards, which coſt the lives of great numbers of men on both ſides. The next morning he ſent an officer to acquaint Prince Eugene with M. de Surville's

Surville's misfortune, and desired his leave that he might be received into the town of Lisle, the noise in the citadel being so great that he could not sleep; which his highness very readily granted; but, the town of Lisle proving as noisy almost as the citadel, the Prince sent him with a guard to Doway, where he was cured. On the 26th of November the besiegers made a lodgment on the saliant angles of the second covered-way. On the 28th the M. de Boufflers made a sally with the greatest part of his garrison, and did a great deal of mischief, over-turning the new-made lodgment, and driving the allies out of the covered-way. On the 30th Prince Eugene gave orders for attacking the covered-way again, and the soldiers were so animated by his presence that they carried it with very little trouble. His highness sent a trumpet to M. de Boufflers to advise him to think of preserving himself and the remains of a garrison which had behaved so bravely: he assured him that he was under no small concern at the apprehension of what might befal such a number of gallant men in case of a general assault; that he was willing to grant them any reasonable terms they could ask, and that their obstinacy, instead of gaining them greater honour, might be fatal to the reputation they had already acquired. Boufflers at that time declined treating; but the works being carried on by the besiegers with great success, and every thing being ready by the 6th of December to batter in breach, the garrison being in great want of ammunition, and grown sickly by eating of horse-flesh from the very time they entered the citadel, he at eight o'clock in the evening caused the chamade to be beat; hostages were exchanged the same evening, and articles were easily settled, Prince Eugene keeping strictly to his word, and allowing almost every thing that Marshal Boufflers asked, which was the more generous, since the French themselves own that things were almost in a desperate condition. On the 9th Prince Eugene and

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the Prince of Orange, after ſigning the capitulation, went to pay the marſhal a viſit: his highneſs embraced the marſhal as ſoon as he entered the room. M. Boufflers invited them to ſupper, and told them, with a ſmile, that he would endeavour to find ſomething better than horſe-fleſh for them. The princes complimented him highly on his defence, and the Marſhal de Boufflers paid them all poſſible honours. On the 10th the marſhal went to Prince Eugene's quarters and dined there; all the officers of diſtinction in the army of the confederates went to pay him their compliments. On the day appointed, the Marſhal de Boufflers marched out of the citadel at the head of his garriſon, and was eſcorted to Doway by 400 horſe: theſe troops he brought into the city, and quartered them there for a night, cauſing them to be handſomely regaled at his own expence. Thus ended the memorable ſiege of Liſle, of which we need ſay no more than that it fatally convinced the French king that nothing was impoſſible to the allies.

The Marſhal Boufflers found at Doway the king's orders to repair immediately to Paris, which accordingly he did, and the next day went to court, where he met with a moſt gracious reception, the king preſenting him, with his own hand, the brevet for creating him duke and peer of France. It is certain that his moſt chriſtian majeſty wrote to him to ſurrender the citadel, and declared that he was thoroughly ſatisfied with his having defended it ſo long. This letter is ſaid to have been procured by the Duke of Burgundy's friends; nay, ſo weary was that prince of this unfortunate campaign, that, having put the army into winter quarters, he arrived with the Duke of Berry and the Chevalier de St. George at Verſailles, ſome days before the Marſhal de Boufflers.

All Europe were aſtoniſhed at the reduction of Liſle in the ſight of a ſuperior army, which was conſidered as better able to beſiege Eugene and Marlborough,

rough, than these generals were to invest Lisle. The divisions which prevailed in the French army enervated its strength. The officers in the Duke of Vendome's party imputed their misfortunes to the Duke of Burgundy's counsels, who, on their side, charged all on the Duke de Vendome. One of the Duke of Burgundy's courtiers said to Vendome; "See the consequence of your never going to mass; to this we must ascribe all our misfortunes."--"Do you imagine," answered Vendome, "that Marlborough goes thither oftener than I?"---At the close of the campaign the Duke of Vendome went to Paris. He durst not appear in public, dreading the consequences of the hatred which his conduct had raised. Irritated at his cold reception at court, he retired to one of his estates, being the fifth Marshal of France whom Marlborough's success had driven from the service.

The difficulties however of the allies were not ended by the conquest of Lisle. They had lost between 18,000 and 20,000 men before the place, and they were compelled either to repass the Scheld, or to distribute the troops in the small space of country comprehended between Lisle, Menin and Courtray. To pass a river, whose banks were occupied by an enemy superior in number, and lined with strong entrenchments, was a dangerous undertaking; and, by not doing it, Flanders, Brabant, Guelderland, even some of the United Provinces, would have been exposed to the ravages of the French. The Duke of Marlborough, who ever treated fortune as if she had stipulated to favour his designs, attempted, without hesitation, to pass the Scheld, and he did it without drawing a sword.

The raising the siege of Brussels, which the Elector of Bavaria had invested, was the first consequence of this exploit. On the approach of the allies he precipitately decamped, leaving all his cannon, ammunition, and wounded.

The Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene were both of opinion, that, though it was very late in the ſeaſon, yet the campaign ſhould not be finiſhed till Ghent and Bruges were re-taken. On the 16th of December a council of war was held, in which it was reſolved that the Duke of Marlborough ſhould command the ſiege of Ghent, and Prince Eugene the army intended to cover it. The place was accordingly fully inveſted on the 18th, and all things put in order for carrying on the ſiege with vigour.

The Count de la Motte, ſo well known from his attempt at Wynendale, commanded in the place, and had a garriſon of thirty battalions and nineteen ſquadrons, which numerous body of troops would have exceedingly incommoded the Dutch, if the enemy had continued in poſſeſſion of the place during the winter. The French court could hardly be perſuaded, that, after ſo fatiguing a ſiege as that of Liſle, the allies would think of ſuch an enterprize as ſeizing Ghent; but, on receiving repeated advice that the Duke of Marlborough had declared that he would not return to England till he had ſeen both it and Bruges reduced, M. de Chamillard wrote a letter to the Count de la Motte, which was intercepted: it was dated Verſailles, December the 17th, 1708; and therein the miniſter, whoſe creature the Count de la Motte was, thought fit to expreſs himſelf in the following terms: "Notwithſtanding the place in itſelf is not ſtrong, yet it cannot be attacked but by difficult and narrow places. You have a great number of troops, which are more than ſufficient to defend a covered-way, and ſell dear to the allies the conqueſt of that place. If they perſiſt in the deſign to make themſelves maſters thereof, I cannot forbear to tell you that to a great deal of courage and good inclination it is neceſſary to add a great calmneſs and ſedateneſs of mind, and patience, in order to make uſe of all the difficulties which may diſturb the enemy and retard the ſiege. Do not take upon yourſelf

yourself alone all the motions which are to be made; for there are several officers that are capable to advise and assist you. You know how much I interest myself in every thing wherein you are personally concerned; though reasons of state oblige me to explain my thoughts to you on such things, which, in my opinion, may most contribute to a long defence: I think however myself obliged to tell you, as relating to you alone, that after having the misfortune to command in Ostend, which the enemy reduced in a very few days, and of having not succeeded in the fight of Wynendale, it is of the highest concern to yourself as well as to his majesty, that the opportunity you have now may give him so good an opinion of you as may obtain from his majesty those marks of distinction for which you have so long laboured. If you are besieged, you must use all possible means to protract the siege, insomuch that it may cost the allies very dear, and dispute the ground inch by inch, as the Marshal de Boufflers had done at Lisle. I know the difference betwixt the fortifications of Lisle and those of Ghent; but there is in the latter a good covered-way which is equally good every where; and after six weeks time the enemy were not not entirely masters of that of Lisle, though the garrison of the place was not so strong as yours. I tell you nothing as to the preservation of the troops: you have, in my opinion, a long time before you ought to think of their preservation, and I have reason to believe that they will serve with much distinction and affection under your command."

Though this letter was never received, yet M. de Motte did not require any extraordinary capacity to conceive of what prodigious consequence it was to France that Ghent was preserved, or at least that it was held out to the last. The place was in excellent condition; the troops under his command were an army rather than a garrison, and the season so advanced that he had no reason to doubt, if he made a resolute

defence, the allies would be conſtrained to raiſe the ſiege. We ſhall ſee how well he anſwered the expectation of the French court, and of his patron M. Chamillard in particular; or rather we ſhall ſee with what conſiſtency the ſame great genius diſplayed itſelf in the holding out of Ghent, which had ſhone with ſuch luſtre in the buſineſs of Wynendale. The allies formed three attacks: General Lottum with thirty-ſix battalions and thirty ſquadrons took poſt behind the Upper Schelde and the Lys for the firſt; the Prince of Heſſe Caſſel, with twenty battalions and forty ſquadrons, formed the ſecond between the canal of Bruges and that of the Sas Van Ghent, as the Duke of Wirtemberg did the third with ſixteen battalions and twenty-five ſquadrons, between the canal laſt mentioned and the Lower Schelde; the reſt of the ground between the Higher and the Lower Schelde was filled up by the Count Tilly, with thirty battalions and as many ſquadrons. The Duke of Marlborough, to make as ſhort work as poſſible, ordered a train of 150 cannon and mortars to be brought down the canals, threatening the town with immediate deſolation, for their having, as he ſuſpected, ſuffered the French to ſurpriſe it. On the 24th of December, the ground was broken before the city, at the attack formed by General Lottum in a moon-light night, and in the ſight of the enemy. M. de la Motte cauſed the alarm to be given, drew his troops together with great intrepidity, but before they could be brought into order the allies had ſo well covered themſelves that M. la Motte thought fit to let his forces diſperſe themſelves to prevent the waſting of powder. The 25th the trenches were opened with the ſame ſucceſs before the citadel, at the Duke of Wirtemberg's attack. The ſame evening the trenches were opened before the Bruſſels gate, under the protection of a detachment commanded by Brigadier Evans. The next morning on officer of M. de la Motte's garriſon, of a different diſpoſition from his commander, ſallied with ten companies

panies of grenadiers, and attacked the Engliſh troops with ſuch vigour, that he put them into great confuſion, and when he was obliged to retire carried off Brigadier Evans and Lieutenant-colonel Groves priſoners. On the 29th about noon, M. de la Motte deſired leave to capitulate, though the court of France, in expectation of his holding out, had ſent the Marſhal de Boufflers to re-aſſemble an army in Flanders, but it was the count's misfortune never ſo much as to anſwer even his enemy's expectations; and therefore, to prevent any miſchief happening between the Duke of Marlborough and the Marſhal de Boufflers, he fairly gave up the place on the laſt day of the year, on very honourable terms.

On the 3d of January the duke went into the city publicly, receiving the keys of the town in a gilt baſon, which he returned to the magiſtrates. The ſame day advice arrived that the enemy had abandoned Bruges, Placendahl, and Leffingen, and retired with their forces into their own dominions. On the 4th the duke ſet out for Bruſſels, where Prince Eugene had arrived the day before; and, winter-quarters being ſettled, the duke went from thence to the Hague. Thus ended the campaign on this ſide.

The miſcarriage laſt year before Toulon (ſee p. 158,) did not diſcourage the gallant Victor Amadæus, or hinder him from meditating a new irruption into France, in return for the ſiege of Turin. The preparations made by his royal highneſs's command through Piedmont during the winter and the ſpring, his aſſembling ſo great a body of troops on his frontiers, and preparing not only a train of field-pieces, but a quantity alſo of heavy cannon, gave the French to apprehend not an incurſion only, but a ſiege of ſome important place. That his moſt chriſtian majeſty was under apprehenſions of what the duke might effect, is clear from his recalling M. Villars from the Rhine, and ſending him hither, but that he had no greater

army

army than 15,000 men under his command, as the writer of his memoirs ſays, is a falſity; for M. Quincy, who had better opportunities of knowing, owns that the marſhal had ſeventy-four battalions and twenty ſquadrons, which were diſperſed indeed in different quarters, as occaſion required. The Duke of Savoy had a very conſiderable body of troops, viz. eighteen battalions of Piedmonteſe, and twenty-four of German troops, twenty-four ſquadrons of Piedmonteſe horſe and dragoons, and about forty ſquadrons of German horſe and dragoons, in all about 25,000 foot, and 9000 horſe. The German troops were commanded by Count Daun, who was ſubordinate however to his royal highneſs. He forced the paſſages which he found guarded, and frequently deceived the French ſo effectually as to paſs through very difficult defiles without meeting with any oppoſition. Feneſtrelles was taken in ſight, and in ſpight of all the efforts M. Villars could make to ſave it. As for General Daun, he had orders to go with his forces into the dutchy of Ferrara, and to live there at diſcretion, in order to puniſh the inhabitants for having taken up arms for their ſovereign the pope, againſt his Imperial majeſty. Let us now turn our eyes to Spain, which was truly a field of blood this year, and in which the allies were very unſucceſsful.

Count Guido Staremberg arrived at Barcelona on the laſt of April, the ſupplies demanded by King Charles being arrived before; that general inſtantly reviewed them, viſited all the ſtrong places in Catalonia; and, leaving in Terragona 500 men, and in Barcelona as many, drew out all the reſt of his garriſon to increaſe his army, which by that means ſwelled to 11,000 foot and 5000 horſe, beſides four regiments of miquelets. Great hopes were conceived from the opinion all the world had entertained of the military capacity of this new general. The army of the two crowns was commanded this year, as it had been the year before,

fore, by the Duke of Orleans, who had under him the Count of Bezons; it consisted of thirty-six battalions and fifty-five squadrons.

It would be to no purpose to fatigue the reader with a particular account of the marches and counter-marches which happened at the beginning of this campaign. On the 12th of June the Duke of Orleans with his army invested Tortosa. This place was fortified, before it fell into the hands of King Charles, with good ramparts flanked with towers, some bastions, and very good ditches; it was covered by a castle built on a little hill in tolerable condition, with a good horn-work before it, which last addition to its strength was owing to the care of King Charles, whose engineers had strengthened the covered-way and erected some advanced works. Near the Ebro stood a convent of Carmelites, which was well fortified also, it being concluded after Lerida was taken, that this would be the next place besieged by the forces of King Philip. Its garrison was composed of eight battalions, three Dutch, three German, one English, and one of French refugees, besides two battalions of miquelets and 300 horse. On the 21st the trenches were opened before the convent of Carmelites, with some loss, but the Duke of Orleans was present, and remained upon the spot till midnight. The ground was very rocky, which constrained the besiegers to make but slow work; and his royal highness, conceiving that the work would be still carried on more slowly if it were not well looked after, caused a tent to be pitched at the end of the trenches, and came thither every morning to give orders and to transact all the business of the day. He likewise went from time to time to each of the batteries, spoke apart to each of the cannoneers, commended them, gave them money, asked their advice, and made them all believe they were his privy counsellors. The garrison made a very gallant defence, and incommoded the besiegers very much, killing a great number

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of men in the works. In the night between the firſt and ſecond of July ſeveral officers of diſtinction were wounded in the trenches; the governor ſent in the morning a drum to deſire of the commanding officer on duty a ſmall quantity of ſnow for ſome ladies that were ill in the town. As ſoon as the Duke of Orleans was informed of it, he not only gave orders for ſending immediately three veſſels of it, but alſo directed that the ſame quantity ſhould be ſent every day, which occaſioned half an hour's ceſſation of arms each time it was carried. When it was practicable to make an aſſault, his royal highneſs took all imaginable care that the neceſſary preparations ſhould be made on that account, ſo that in the night between the 9th and 10th of Auguſt the covered-way was attacked by the grenadiers of thoſe battalions which were in the trenches ſuſtained by ſeveral battalions. Never was any attack more terrible: the beſieged knowing the weakneſs of the place were apprehenſive that it would be taken by aſſault; they cauſed therefore the tocſin to be rung, and obliged not only the inhabitants of the town but the very monks to take arms; every body put out torches at their windows, that they might have a clearer view of the action, which laſted an hour and half with much bloodſhed, and a prodigious fire on both ſides. It ceaſed at laſt for a quarter of an hour on the ſide of the beſieged, but that was only that they might have time to make a ſally, which was performed with the utmoſt vigour, and was ſupported by a moſt terrible fire from the place, accompanied with ſtones, bombs, and grenades; notwithſtanding all which the beſieged were repulſed with very great loſs, and the beſiegers remained in poſſeſſion of the lodgments they had made, though at the expence of many brave officers' lives, and with the loſs of about 200 private men. The fire on both ſides continued all night, but about ſeven in the morning the governor cauſed a chamade to be beat, and ſent out hoſtages: an honourable capitulation

was granted, whereby the garriſon was permitted to march out with their arms and baggage, ſix pieces of cannon, two mortars, and ſix covered waggons; but the governor capitulated alſo for the caſtle of Arnez, which had long ſerved for a rendezvous for the miquelets, who plundered the kingdoms of Arragon and Valencia. On the 15th the garriſon marched out, and 1500 of them liſted immediately in the French ſervice, being for the moſt part Bavarians and Flemings. The Germans formed a project for ſurpriſing four troops of horſe who were ſent to eſcort the garriſon; but the officer, having intelligence thereof, inſtead of going to bed, as he pretended to do, when he took his leave of the governor of Tortoſa, cauſed his party to mount, and by riding hard all night arrived ſafe at the camp of the Duke of Orleans. The Germans ſay this attempt was made by a commander of the miquelets without order.

After the ſiege of Tortoſa, the Duke of Orleans took all the neceſſary meaſures for penetrating farther into the country; but Count Staremberg was ſo vigilant, that it was impoſſible for him to gain any ground. The count had in his army the ſon of the Marquis das Minas, a young gentleman of great hopes; he underſtood the country perfectly well, and undertook with a very ſmall body of dragoons, to watch his royal highneſs's motions, and give an exact account of them to General Staremberg, who in the mean time remained quietly in his camp of Cervera. The Duke of Orleans took great pains to draw him from thence, or to have an opportunity of falling upon his rear, but in both theſe ſchemes he was defeated. Count Staremberg remained in his poſt till all proviſions were exhauſted, and, when he found the country could furniſh no more, he obliged 2000 peaſants to take arms to defend the paſſages in his rear, and, by keeping their families in his hands, made them accountable for his

ſafe retreat, which finiſhed the operations on this ſide for the ſummer.

In the mean time a very extraordinary accident happened in Barcelona on the arrival of the garriſon of Tortoſa; for, the people having been informed by ſome of King's Charles's miniſtry, that the French had been obliged to raiſe the ſiege, they were ſo irritated at finding themſelves impoſed on, that they ran in crowds to the palace, and fell upon all they met. King Charles thereupon went in perſon into a balcony, from whence he intreated the people to retire quietly to their houſes; but, while he was ſpeaking, by ſome means or other a piece was fired, which killed a gentleman of his retinue in the balcony, and thirty or forty more were killed before the ſedition could be appeaſed.

The Chevalier d'Aſfeld,, after the reduction of Tortoſa, marched back into the kingdom of Valencia, where he had orders to reduce Denia and Alicant, that that kingdom might be entirely in the hands of King Philip. The firſt of theſe had a ſupply ſent from the latter by ſea, which entered the place the 5th of November. The Chevalier d'Aſfeld not being able to inveſt it till the 6th, the trenches were opened before it on the 7th; and, the breach being practicable by the 12th, Monſieur d'Aſfeld cauſed it to be attacked by a body of grenadiers, himſelf being at their head. They behaved ſo well that the upper and lower town were taken ſword in hand, and all who were found armed were put to the ſword. The governor, with the reſt of the garriſon, conſiſting of 800 men, retired into the caſtle. M. d'Aſfeld, notwithſtanding his being wounded in the attack, gave immediate orders for forcing the monaſtery of St. Laurence, a ſtrong poſt, by favour of which the caſtle might be relieved from ſea. Don Pedro Ronquillo, to whom this enterprize was entruſted, ſucceeded in it ſo well, that the place rendered to the beſiegers in a few hours; and, within a few hours after it ſubmitted, four veſſels full of troops, ammunition,

ammunition, and provisions, appeared off the port, but could not enter, which constrained the governor on the 17th to beat the chamade, and to render himself and his garrison prisoners of war. This was a great loss to King Charles, for hitherto it had served for a resource at all times to such of the Valencians as inclined to quit the party of King Philip. Besides there were in the place a considerable quantity of ammunition and provisions, and, which was of greater value, fifty pieces of brass cannon and several large mortars; a body of miquelets, consisting of about 300 men, being extremely apprehensive of ill treatment, in case they fell into the hands of King Philip's forces, endeavoured to force their way through, but they were so unlucky as to fall directly on the quarters of the Spanish horse, by whom only a very few were made prisoners, and the rest put to the sword without mercy. The Chevalier d'Asfeld received very high commendations, on account as well of his conduct as of his success. As for the siege of Alicant, it was impracticable, considering the advanced season and the condition of the troops; M. d'Asfeld therefore caused it to be blockaded in the beginning of December, conceiving that nothing more could be done at that time, but afterwards he thought proper to attack the town, which he did with such effect, that Colonel Richards who commanded in it was obliged to capitulate, in order to save three regiments, for which he found there would be no room in the castle. The Chevalier d'Asfeld granted them very honourable conditions, whereby they were to be conducted safe into Catalonia; but General Stanhope having, in consequence of an order from London, caused a part of the garrison of Port Mahon to be detained, M. d'Asfeld sent a dedrtachment of horse after the garrison of Alicant, and caused them also to be detained.

Count Staremberg having been persuaded by the Governor of Tortosa, that it was a very practicable

thing to retake that city before its breaches were repaired, and while the Duke of Orleans and his army were in quarters of refreſhment; in order to effect this, a corps of troops were drawn together, at the head of which Count Staremberg, General Stanhope who commanded the Engliſh, and General Weſell who commanded the Dutch troops, put themſelves, with the Count d'Effren, who had been governor of the place, and ſome other officers of diſtinction. Their march was ſo well concealed that they arrived about three in the morning of the 2d of December, within half an hour's march of the city. It was then reſolved to make two attacks, for which they had all the neceſſary inſtructions from their correſpondents in the place, ſo that the Engliſh, who attacked the poſts on the Upper Ebro, entered the covered-way almoſt without oppoſition, two advanced guards, one of thirty the other of fifty men, being cut to pieces in a moment. The troops at the other attack had alſo great ſucceſs at the firſt; but, when the French and Spaniſh troops recovered their ſurpriſe, they defended themſelves with prodigious reſolution. M. de Belancour, who commanded in the ſuburbs which was firſt taken, made a very deſperate defence, but he being killed the troops he commanded retired into the place, from whence after a ſhort time continual ſallies were made; inſomuch that when the ſun roſe the allies were forced to retire, after a moſt obſtinate and bloody engagement, wherein there were near 800 killed on both ſides upon the ſpot. After the retreat of the allies, their correſpondents were diſcovered, who were, without any ceremony, broke on the wheel and expoſed on the walls, their houſes raſed, their effects ſold, and the money diſtributed among the garriſon. The abſence of the Duke of Orleans, who ſet out a little before for France, was the chief motive to this attempt; for while he was with the army he had ſuch exact intelligence, that nothing could be done or thought on without his knowledge.

ledge. He was received with great applauſe at Madrid in the latter end of November, but he did not continue long there, the King of France having poſitively deſired that he might return as ſoon as poſſible to Paris.

In Eſtramadura there paſſed this year no great matter; the Marquis de Fonteira commanded the troops of Portugal, and the army of Spain was commanded by the M. de Bay. He cauſed the caſtle of Altura to be inveſted pretty early, complaint being made to him that the garriſon had done a great deal of miſchief; it was carried by aſſault, and all who were therein put to the ſword. The Duke d'Oſſuna, who commanded in Andaluſia, kept the Portugueſe on that ſide from attempting any thing, which, without doing them much injury, we may affirm they were not ſorry for, experience having taught them, that, if ſubſidies were exactly paid, it was no great matter how the war went on. His Portugueſe majeſty however diſtinguiſhed himſelf from all his predeceſſors, by the care he took of military affairs; for he gave orders that his regiments, as well horſe as foot, ſhould be put under an exact regulation. The former were reduced to eleven, thoſe of horſe conſiſting of 480 effective men; thoſe of dragoons of 600. His infantry conſiſted of thirty battalions of 700 men each, regularly paid every month. One thing fell out on this ſide very remarkable, the Portugueſe and Spaniſh general officers and governors obſerving that great cruelties were committed under colour of the war, that on the taking ſmall garriſons the men were generally put to the ſword, and that the frontiers of both kingdoms were in a manner ruined, came to a reſolution among themſelves, which put an effectual end to all theſe evils; it was this. The ſoldiers on both ſides were forbid to plunder, not only their friends but their enemies; and, if they contravened theſe orders, they were puniſhed by their own officers. Labourers and peaſants were ordered to

reſume

reſume their employments on the public faith of both nations, all ſurpriſes and inroads were laid aſide by mutual conſent, and the war was for the future conducted according to the ſtricteſt rules of honour, and without danger to any who were not actually in arms. Let us now paſs to the naval expeditions of this year.

Great diſcontents ſtill ſubſiſted, particularly in Scotland, on the ſcore of the union; and the court of France made uſe of theſe commotions to introduce the excluded family into Scotland. The appellation which the French gave to the reputed ſon of King James, was, the Chevalier de St. George, whilſt Queen Anne ſoon after diſtinguiſhed him by the name of the Pretender. A ſquadron of ſmall men of war, conſiſting of five ſhips equipped for action, and two fitted for tranſports, was prepared at Dunkirk, while eleven or twelve battalions were ordered to aſſemble there from the garriſons of Calais, St. Omers, Bergues, Aire, and Liſle. Count Forbin commanded the fleet, and the Marquis de Gace the troops intended for this expedition. The preparations were carried on with expedition and ſecrecy; and, when they firſt became publicly known, it was uncertain where the ſtorm was to fall. Men could ſcarcely believe that an invaſion of Great Britain was ſeriouſly meant by the enemy, without a fleet of capital ſhips, and therefore the States of the United Provinces began to be extremely apprehenſive of a deſcent on the coaſt of Zealand.

The views of France, in forwarding this deſign, were to create a diverſion, and, if poſſible, to raiſe a rebellion in Scotland, and thereby retard the more diſtant operations of the war. The firſt intelligence that was obtained of the real deſtination of the force aſſembled at Dunkirk, was by General Cadogan, who reſided at the Hague in quality of ambaſſador at the court of Great Britain: the pretended Prince of Wales arriving ſoon after at Dunkirk, confirmed the information. The queen, by Mr. Secretary Boyle, who had

had ſucceeded Harley, acquainted the houſe of commons with this event, on the 4th of March. Both houſes of parliament hereupon preſented very loyal addreſſes to the throne, and the habeas-corpus act was ſuſpended. The preparations of the miniſtry kept pace with the zeal of parliament. Sir George Byng and Lord Durſley, with a fleet of twenty-three Britiſh and three Dutch men-of-war, together with a fire-ſhip, had ſtretched over from Deal to Dunkirk, on the 27th of February, whilſt a ſufficient convoy was retained for the Liſbon fleet. Ten battalions of Engliſh troops were ordered from Flanders; the forces in England were every where in motion; and the regiments ſtationed in the ſouth of Ireland were marched towards the north, for the convenience of a ſhort paſſage to Scotland.

The Engliſh fleet anchored before Gravelines; but, being driven from their ſtation by a ſtorm, Forbin found means to ſlip out of Dunkirk, and ſtretched away for the frith of Edinburgh, Sir George Byng purſuing him with all his force. On the 12th the French made the coaſt of Scotland; but, either through the ignorance of their pilots, or the deſign of Count Forbin, they found themſelves to the north of their deſtination. The Saliſbury, an Engliſh prize, then in their ſervice, with ſeveral perſons of great quality on-board, was taken; the reſt, having ſuffered much-hardſhip at ſea, and loſt many of their men by ſickneſs, ſlunk, ſhip by ſhip, into Dunkirk. The capture of the Saliſbury was a very conſiderable acquiſition, conſidering the number of perſons taken on-board her; for beſides Lord Griffin, Lord Clermont, Charles Middleton, and Francis Wauchope, Eſquires, who had all followed the fortune of King James; there were likewiſe ſeveral land and ſea officers, in the French ſervice, of very great diſtinction, five companies of the regiment of Bearn, and all the ſhips company conſiſting of 300 men. The Chevalier de St. George is ſaid to have entreated

treated the French admiral, when they came within ſight of the Scottiſh coaſt, to put him on-ſhore, being reſolved, he ſaid, to remain in Scotland, ſhould no one follow him but his own domeſtics. Forbin, having long argued in vain on the impropriety of that ſtep, poſitively refuſed, at laſt, to comply with his requeſt. The French ſay that Forbin was from the beginning againſt this expedition; that he told the French king he would anſwer for landing his troops, but that he would not be accountable for the fleet; that on the appearance of the Engliſh fleet he called a council of war, wherein it was reſolved to return to Dunkirk, which reſolution was put in execution with very little loſs, all things conſidered. There are ſome who pretend to be acquainted with this buſineſs from other hands, and who affirm that the whole of the affair was managed with very little regard to him for whoſe ſake it was pretended to be undertaken; that he was made merely the inſtrument of the court of France, followed its inſtructions blindly, and that ſcarcely appearances were preſerved towards him on his return, when he had no private audience of the French king; ſo that he appeared not to be in the ſecret, which ſome then imagined, was to damp public credit in Britain, and to diſtract the deſigns of the allies. If this be true, not only the chevalier but all his adherents, eſpecially thoſe old lords who had attended King James in his exile, were certainly ill uſed. And, if Lords Griffin and Clermont, Mr. Middleton, Colonel Wauchop, and other perſons of diſtinction, who were taken in the Saliſbury, eſcaped death, it was entirely owing to the mercy of their enemies, and not at all to the faith of their pretended friends. It is generally thought that this unhappy expedition opened the eyes of the Jacobites, and taught them to beware of truſting to foreign aſſiſtance againſt their country.

The naval ſtrength of the maritime powers was, as uſual, intended to be exerted on the eaſtern coaſts of Spain.

Spain. Sir John Leake, who commanded the grand fleet, was early at sea, and in his passage to Lisbon effectually protected all the outward bound merchantmen that sailed from the channel. He arrived in the Tagus on the 27th of March, where he found the squadron which Commodore Hickes had brought from Tuscany, on the death of Admiral Dilkes. At a council of war it was resolved, that the fleet and transports should proceed to Vado, in the gulph of Genoa. Three men-of-war were ordered to cruise off the Azores, to protect the Brazil fleet on its return to Portugal. Other men-of-war were appointed to cruise in the Strait's mouth, to guard the English and Dutch trade; the number of which ships was augmented, upon advice being received from Colonel Elliot, governor of Gibraltar, that some French ships of war had been seen in those parts. The transport ships having received on-board 1500 horse, the fleet sailed on the 28th of April. On the 11th of May, being about twelve leagues from Alicant, several vessels appeared in sight of the fleet: the next day a French frigate of 24 guns was taken, by which the admiral learnt, that the ships in sight were three French men-of-war, one of 44, one of 40, and another of 32, guns; together with 90 settees and tartans, laden with wheat, barley, and oil, for the use of the army under the Duke of Orleans, and bound for Peniscola, between the mouth of the Ebro and the city of Valencia. [A settee is a ship of two masts, equipped with triangular sails, commonly called lateen sails; these vessels are peculiar to the Mediterranean sea, and are generally navigated by Italians, Greeks, or Mahometans.---A tartan is a small coasting vessel, navigated in the Mediterranean Sea, having only one mast and a bowsprit, the principal sail, which is extremely large, being extended by a lateen yard.] The British frigates immediately bore down on the French men-of-war, which abandoned their convoy, sought their safety by flight; and, night coming on, they found means to

elude their purſuers. The diviſion of the fleet under the command of the vice-admiral of the white, being neareſt in ſhore, their long-boats were manned, and their ſmall ſhips ſent out to attack the barks, as they were plying along the coaſt, whereby the greater part was taken. By the intercepting this ſupply, the army in Valencia, which fought for Philip, was much diſtreſſed; and that of Charles, now pent up in the confines of Barcelona, greatly aſſiſted.

Sir John Leake arrived with his fleet at Barcelona on the 15th of May, and, continuing there only a few days, proceeded to Vado, to take on-board the Princeſs Wolfenbuttle, whom Charles III. had eſpouſed. He waited on the Queen of Spain at Milan, and was received with every mark of reſpect. Her majeſty embarked at Genoa, on the 2d of July, on-board the fleet, which conveyed her to Barcelona. The admiral then ſet about executing the important objects of the war, the firſt of which was the reduction of Sardinia. He appeared before Cagliari, the capital of the iſland, on the 1ſt of Auguſt. The Marquis of Jamaica, who commanded there for King Philip, being ſummoned to ſurrender, declared his reſolution of holding out to the laſt extremity. The ſhips thereupon began to bombard the place that night, and the next morning 1800 ſoldiers, under the command of Major-general Wills, were landed, in order to ſtorm it; but the governor, dreading the conſequences of theſe vigorous advances, capitulated. The whole iſland immediately ſubmitted without drawing a ſword; for, as ſoon as the Engliſh fleet had come in ſight, the monks, gained by Cardinal Grimani, ran in bodies through the ſtreets, holding crucifixes in their hands, and declaring to the people who flocked round them, that God had made uſe of heretics to give them a better maſter. The reduction of this iſland was of equal importance to the common cauſe, and to the private intereſt of Charles: to the firſt it rendered the navigation of the Mediter-

ranean secure; and it supplied the latter with corn and other provisions.

No sooner had Sir John Leake established the new viceroy, which he carried over, in the peaceable possession of the island, than he sailed to Minorca, and appeared before Port Mahon on the 25th of August. Here he was to be joined by Lieutenant-general Stanhope, with a body of troops from Majorca, which soon after arrived. The landing being effected, the greatest part of the fleet proceeded to England, leaving, with General Stanhope, all their marines above the middle complement. The squadron destined to remain in the Mediterranean was put under the command of Sir Edward Whitaker, and continued at Port Mahon to co-operate with the army; 2600 men were employed in the siege; the batteries were opened on the 28th of October, and two days after it surrendered. About fifty men were killed or wounded in the siege; among the former was Captain Stanhope, of the Milford, brother to the general, a young gentleman of eminent bravery. This island was in itself less considerable than Sardinia, but more valuable to the British nation, on account of the excellent harbour of Port Mahon. Sir John Leake arrived with the fleet at St. Helen's on the 19th of October.

In consequence of the remonstrances from King Charles, Sir Edward Whitaker, who was then at Leghorn, sent the Defiance and the York, with the Terrible bomb-vessel, to assist the viceroy of Naples in the reduction of some places on the coast of Tuscany; but the attempt miscarried through the dilatoriness of the Germans in providing the necessary supplies. These ships, however, overawed the Italian States, and particularly the pope, who had firmly adhered to the interests of Philip V. but was now forced to acknowledge Charles III. as lawful King of Spain.

Having now gone over the occurrences in the Me-

diterranean during the year 1708, let us take a view of affairs nearer home.

In order to diſtract France, by dividing her attention, and ſpreading a general alarm, preparations were made to annoy the coaſt by a deſcent. Sir George Byng commanded the fleet appointed for this ſervice, and Lord Durſley was vice-admiral; the land-forces were commanded by Lieutenant general Erle. On the 27th of July, the fleet, with the tranſports, having the troops on-board which were intended for the deſcent, ſailed from Spithead, and came the next day to an anchor off Deal. The 29th they ſtood over to the coaſt of Picardy, as well to alarm as to miſlead the enemy, and to be ready for farther orders. The 1ſt of Auguſt the fleet ſailed again, and anchored the next day in the bay of Boulogne, where they made a feint of landing their troops; on the 3d they ſtood in for the ſhore, to obſerve the condition of the enemy; on the 4th they weighed, but anchored again about noon in the bay of Eſtaples. Here a detachment of troops was landed; but, the project on-ſhore which this deſcent was to have countenanced being laid aſide, an expreſs brought new orders from England, upon which the troops were re-embarked. On the 7th they ſtood over again to the coaſt of England, and, being joined by more tranſports in Dover Road, arrived on the 11th in the bay of La Hogue; on the 12th they deſigned to have landed, but, upon viewing the coaſt, they found ſo many troops brought together to oppoſe a deſcent, and ſo many forts and batteries on-ſhore, that it was deemed impracticable. On the 14th the fleet ſet ſail again for the weſtward; but, the wind coming about the next day, they altered their courſe, and lay before Cherbourg, but found no proſpect of doing any thing there. The ſame day Lord Durſley, in the Oxford, with ſix other men-of-war, and marines, ſailed to the weſtward, to cruiſe in the ſoundings. On the 17th the reſt of the fleet returned to La Hogue; but,

but, the men growing ſickly, and proviſions falling ſhort, Sir George Byng returned to Spithead on the 28th. After thus alarming the French coaſt, the Duke of Marlborough ſolicited, that the land-forces might be landed at Oſtend, which was accordingly performed on the 23d of September, and at ſo critical a juncture, that their arrival decided the fortune of the contending powers, with reſpect to the object before them, by effecting the ſurrender of Liſle to the confederates.

Meanwhile the vigilance of Lord Durſley, in ſcouring the Channel, entirely drove away the French privateers and cruiſers, which before had inſolently braved us in our very ports, and done eſſential injury to our trade.

On the 27th of October, a court-martial was held on-board the Royal Anne, at Spithead, for the trials of Captain Richard Edwards, of the Cumberland; Captain John Balchen, of the Cheſter; and Captain Baron Wild, of the Royal Oak; the two firſt for loſing their ſhips, and the laſt for breaking the line, diſobeying orders, and neglect of duty. After a ſtrict examination of witneſſes, and free liberty given to the perſons accuſed to make their defence, and to produce whatever teſtimonies were in their power, Captain Edwards was moſt honourably acquitted, and declared to have done his duty in every reſpect as captain and commodore; and Captain John Balchen was likewiſe acquitted; but Captain Baron Wild, who we have ſeen particularly unfortunate in the laſt year, (ſee p. 162 and 165.) being found guilty of neglect of duty, and diſobeying orders, was not only caſhiered, but declared incapable of ever ſerving in the royal navy.

Before we quit the tranſactions of the year 1708, it will be proper to relate what paſſed in the Weſt Indies. Commodore Wager ſucceeded Sir John Jennings in his command there, and arrived at Jamaica in the ſummer of 1707. The trade in thoſe parts, which had been greatly injured by the mercenary conduct of Commodore

Commodore Ker when he commanded on that ſtation, began again to flouriſh from the diſintereſted and vigilant conduct of Wager, who readily granted convoys for the ſervice of the merchants, and likewiſe by protecting the Engliſh ſettlements, which ſervices were gratefully acknowledged by the planters and merchants in their repreſentations to the board of admiralty.---No ſooner had the commodore taken the proper meaſures for the ſervice of his friends, than he directed his attention to conſider how he might beſt annoy the enemy. The galleons, fraught with the treaſures of the weſtern hemiſphere, had not ventured to Europe for ſome years, and were now on the point of ſailing. Their immenſe wealth, which was computed to amount to 48,000,000, was neceſſary to repleniſh the exhauſted treaſuries of the Bourbon monarchs, whoſe expedients for ſubſtituting mint-bills in the room of ſpecie, had reduced the credit of government to a ſtate of contempt. The force which the commodore commanded, conſiſted of the Windſor, Expedition, Severn, Kingſton, Aſſiſtance, Portland, and Dunkirk's prize. In the beginning of the year 1708, by letters found onboard a ſloop taken between Porto Bello and Carthagena, it appeared, that Monſieur du Caſſe was arrived at Martinico from Europe, with ten ſhips of war, eight of which mounted from 70 to 86 guns, together with ſeveral large privateers; this account was ſoon afterwards confirmed by Colonel Parkes, who preſided at the Leeward Iſlands. Wager was ſenſible, that the only opportunity which preſented itſelf for him to attack the galleons, with any proſpect of ſucceſs, was before they had joined the French fleet. He had certain information that they were to ſail from Porto Bello to Carthagena, and from thence to the Havannah. Whilſt he was cruiſing as near to the former harbour as he could venture without alarming the Spaniards, having with him the Expedition, Kingſton, Portland, and Vulture fireſhip, on the 28th of May, at noon,

ſeventeen

seventeen sail of galleons were discovered from the top-mast-head. The Spaniards, on perceiving the English squadron, endeavoured to gain the Baru, a small island which lay in their way to Carthagena, but not being able to accomplish that, and rendered bold by the inconsiderable force that was opposed to them, drew up in a line of battle, all the time bearing to the northward. The Spanish admiral carried a white pendant at the top-mast-head in the centre; the vice-admiral, with the same kind of pendant at the fore-top-mast-head in the rear; and the rear-admiral bore his pendant on the mizen-top-mast-head in the van: they were distant from each other about half a mile, which space was occupied by other ships. Of the seventeen sail, two were sloops and one a brigantine; two others were French ships, which set all their sails and got off. Commodore Wager in the Expedition, bore down on the Spanish admiral, and directed Captain Bridges of the Kingston to engage the vice-admiral, and Captain Windsor of the Portland to attack the rear-admiral. As the fireship could not be rendered serviceable, she was ordered to ply to the windward.

About sun-set, the engagement began between the two commanders in chief, and continued for an hour and an half, when, it being dark, the Spanish admiral's ship blew up, not without great danger to the Expedition, from the flaming splinters and planks which fell on-board her, and the great heat of the blast. Hereupon, the commodore put abroad his signal lights for keeping company, and endeavoured to continue sight of some of the enemies ships; but, finding after this accident they began to separate, and discovering but one, which was the rear-admiral, he made sail after her, and, coming up about ten o'clock, when he could not judge which way her head lay, it being very dark, he fired a broadside, which happened to reach her stern, and did such execution, that she appeared to be disabled from making sail; being then to the leeward,

leeward, he, tacking on the Spaniard, got to the windward of him, and the Kingſton and Portland, (which had, by reaſon of the darkneſs of the night, or the blowing up of the admiral which made it very thick thereabouts, loſt ſight of the other ſhips,) following his lights ſoon after, came up with him, and aſſiſted in taking the rear-admiral, who called for quarter about two in the morning. On-board of this ſhip he ſent his boats to bring to him the chief officers, and, before the riſing of the ſun, he ſaw one large ſhip on the weather-bow, and three ſail upon the weather-quarter, three or four leagues off ours, lying then with their heads to the north, the winding being at N. E. an eaſy gale. Then he put out the ſignal for the Kingſton and Portland to chaſe to windward, not being able himſelf to make ſail, being much diſabled; and, as he had a great part of his men in the prize, ſo were there no leſs than 300 priſoners on-board his own ſhip.

The next day, being Sunday the 30th, the wind blowing gently from the N. E. to N. N. W. the Kingſton and Portland had left off chaſing; but he made the ſignal for continuing it, which they did, and ran him out of ſight, the fireſhip ſtill continuing with him; and he, having lain by ſometime, not only to put the prize in a condition of ſailing, but to refit his own rigging, made ſail eaſtward on the 31ſt, when the Kingſton and Portland joined him, and gave him an account, that the ſhip they chaſed was the vice-admiral; to which, as they ſaid, they came ſo near as to fire their broadſides into her; but were ſo far advanced towards the Salmadinas, a ſhoal off of Carthagena, that they were forced to tack and leave her. Thus eſcaped that very rich carrack, to the great diſappointment of the officers and crews of the Engliſh ſhips, who inveighed bitterly againſt their captains. Meanwhile the commodore ſent them orders to attack a galleon of 40 guns, which he underſtood, by a Swediſh ſhip that had been trading at Baru, had taken ſhelter in that iſland.

island. She was just coming out of port as the Kingston and Portland appeared; upon which, her crew ran her ashore, set her on fire, and blew her up, so that nothing could be saved of her valuable cargo. On the 2d of June, the commodore, finding his provisions and water short, the wind contrary, and nothing more to be done in those parts, resolved to set the Spanish prisoners ashore with a flag of truce, in compliance with their earnest entreaty, on the island of Baru, and then proceed for Jamaica; which he performed accordingly. The Expedition had two men killed and nine wounded in the action. According to to the account given to the commodore by these prisoners, of the strength and value of the squadron, the admiral's ship was called the St. Joseph, carried 64 guns, and had 600 men, of whom seventeen only were saved, and had on-board about 7,000,000 in gold and silver; the vice-admiral mounted 64 guns, and had between 400 and 500 men, with about 6,000,000; the rear-admiral mounted 44 guns, but carried eleven more in her hold, and had only thirteen chests of pieces of eight, and fourteen sows of silver. We shall take this opportunity of adding a succinct account of a gallant exploit performed by an English officer a little before the taking the galleons. Captain Coleby, commander of a privateer-sloop of about 100 men, meeting with fourteen sail of brigantines, and sloops, laden with valuable goods, going from the galleons at Porto-Bello, to Panama, under convoy of a guard-sloop, bravely fought the guard-sloop, and took her, and six more. The Spaniards offered the captain 180,000 pieces of eight for the ransom of the sloop, which he refused.

As soon as the commodore reached Jamaica with his prize, he dispatched a vessel to England, with advice of the galleons being on their voyage to Spain; and on the 23d of July he held a court-martial at Port Royal on the two captains, who were accused of ne-

glecting to do their utmoſt to take or deſtroy the Spaniſh vice-admiral's ſhip. No object could be more ſtimulating than the capture of ſo valuable a prize; neither was it an enterprize of ſuch hazard as to require any uncommon ſhare of courage to perform it. The captain of the Kingſton was accuſed of not ſuffering the ſhip to be piloted into a ſhoal called Salmadinas, when he was within gun-ſhot of the galleon. The reaſon which the captain aſſigned for this caution was, that he doubted the pilot's abilities to execute what he was ready to undertake, and thought it deſperately ſtaking the ſafety of his ſhip; no want of perſonal courage was imputed to him. A ſimilar charge was exhibited againſt Captain Windſor of the Portland; of which they were both found guilty, and deprived of their commiſſions.

Not long after this event happened, the Engliſh frigate called Dunkirk's Prize, Captain Purvis, cruiſing to the northward of Hiſpaniola, chaſed a French ſhip, and ran her on ſhore near Cape Françoiſe, when, in following her, the pilot being unſkilful, ſhe ſtruck upon a ledge of rocks and bulged. Indeed the bravery of the captain and part of the crew retrieved this misfortune; for, getting upon a ſmall iſland within ſhot of the French ſhip, which all the while fired briſkly upon them, they got together the ſhip's boats and a canoe, and were preparing to board her, when the Frenchman ſurrendered, on condition that her commander and men ſhould be put aſhore. In this ſhip the brave Captain Purvis arrived in Jamaica, with all his company, except twenty-one, who had refuſed to join in the attempt. But to return to Commodore Wager.

A few days after the court-martial broke up, Commodore Edwards arrived at Jamaica with the Monmouth, a third-rate; the Jerſey, a fourth; and the Roebuck, a fifth-rate. He brought a commiſſion from the admiralty, appointing Wager a rear-admiral of the blue,

blue, which perferment preceded this his bold attack of the galleons. Orders came herewith for the rear-admiral to ſend home four of his ſhips, which accordingly ſailed the latter end of September, and Admiral Wager hoiſted his flag on-board the Monmouth.

But the joy which the queen derived from the great ſucceſs of her arms, was damped by the death of her huſband, the Prince of Denmark, on the 28th of October, 1708, at Kenſington, of an aſthma, with which he had been long afflicted. He was born in 1653, and married the princeſs, afterwards Queen Anne, on the 28th of July, 1683. He was interred with great funeral pomp in Weſtminſter-abbey. The queen, during the twenty-five years of their marriage, was eminent for her conjugal affection, and teſtified uncommon tenderneſs and aſſiduity during the tedious illneſs with which the prince was afflicted. His royal highneſs had ſhewn himſelf brave in war, both in Denmark and Ireland: his temper was mild and gentle: he had made a good progreſs in mathematics: he had travelled through France, Italy, and Germany, and knew much more than he could well expreſs; for he ſpoke acquired languages ill and ungracefully. The queen kept the admiralty in her own hands about three weeks, and then appointed Thomas earl of Pembroke lord high admiral of Great Britain and Ireland, to the diſſatisfaction of thoſe who wiſhed to ſee the Earl of Oxford fill that ſtation.

The great ſucceſs of the campaign, confirmed the influence which Marlborough and Godolphin had acquired, by the expulſion of Harley from the cabinet. They found means at the ſame time to reconcile the Whigs to their meaſures, by dividing among their leaders the power and emoluments of government. The weight of the crown being thrown into the ſcale of that party, they carried moſt of the conteſted elections in the houſe of commons againſt the Tories, and ſecured a majority. The new parliament met on the 18th

of November; they chose Sir Richard Onslow, Bart. for their speaker. The sessions was opened by commission; the lord chancellor, in a speech from the throne, recommended a provision for the navy, and especially for the building of new ships, and fortifying our ports. On the 6th of December, the house of commons addressed for an account of the number of men that might be wanting to man her majesty's navy for the year 1709; which was promised, and, upon its being laid before the house, they agreed to it immediately, and voted the same number of men, with the same allowance, and the same sum for the ordinary use of the navy, as had been given the year before; but soon after, the commons thought fit to appoint a committee to enquire into the number of ships employed as cruisers and convoys; as also to discover the true reasons of the great increase of the navy-debt; and on their report, they came to a resolution on the 24th of March, 1709, that an address be presented to her majesty, to desire that she would be pleased to give directions to the proper officers, to lay before the house an account of all sums of money granted, or voted, since her majesty's accession to the crown, and how far the same had proved deficient. At the same time, they ordered the commissioners of the navy to lay before them the causes of the increase of the debt of the navy: but, to this address, her majesty gave no answer; so that the affair dropped for that time. This conduct of the court gave much offence; yet the commons were so hearty in the prosecution of the war, that they voted 6,457,830l. for the service of the year 1709. They next granted the sum of 103,203l. for the relief of the inhabitants of St. Nevis, and St. Christopher's, and passed a vote in favour of the trade to Africa. Both houses joined in an address, that her majesty would be pleased not to conclude any peace with the French king, unless he consented to demolish the fortifications and harbour of Dunkirk.

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In order to raiſe theſe great ſupplies, the aſſiſtance of the Bank of England was found neceſſary. An act of parliament therefore paſſed, for enlarging the capital ſtock of the Bank of England, by which the governor and company were empowered to double their ſtock, and to ſell their additional ſtock, amounting to 2,001,171l. 10s. at the rate of 115l. for every hundred ſubſcribed. This ſum was fully ſubſcribed for in four hours, on the firſt day of opening the ſubſcription. A clear proof that a ſeven-years extenſive and draining war, had not exhauſted the nation of its wealth.

Whilſt the Britiſh legiſlature were adopting meaſures for the vigorous proſecution of the war, the French king renewed his overtures for reſtoring tranquillity to Europe. The rout at Oudenarde, the taking of Liſle, a famine in his kingdom, the conſequent deficiency in the revenue, the general diſcontents of the people, and the conteſts between his ſervants, forced Louis XIV. to offer terms of peace, at once ſuitable to the melancholy ſituation of his own affairs, and proportionable to the ſucceſs of the allies. At length Prince Eugene and the Duke of Marlborough, who had managed the war with ſuch aſtoniſhing ſucceſs, were fully empowered by the Emperor and the Queen of Great Britain, in conjunction with the republic of Holland, to treat with the miniſters of France, and to ſettle the terms of peace. They arrived for that purpoſe at the Hague in the beginning of the month of April. Theſe two generals, and Heinſius the penſionary of Holland, formed a triumvirate, on whom the grand confederacy, and conſequently the fate of Europe, depended. To theſe, however, what was ſaid of a great man in ſimiliar circumſtances in our own times, might be applied, "that they who had been the means of ſpreading the flame were the moſt unfit perſons to be employed in putting out the fire." The two generals having gained ſo many battles, and ſucceeded

ceeded in all their arduous and important undertakings, had acquired the confidence of the allies in proportion as they had excited terror in the enemy. Heinſius had been the depoſitory of King William's ſecrets; he had been raiſed by that prince to the place of firſt miniſter, and had the good fortune to have preſerved the authority which he had received, by being the chain that united the States with the grand confederacy formed by his late patron againſt the houſe of Bourbon. Each of the three negotiators ſeemed to have had a perſonal intereſt in oppoſing the peace. The Duke of Marlborough was influenced thereto by the hope of gathering freſh laurels, as well as from the meaner motive of acquiring wealth: Prince Eugene, being a ſoldier of fortune, had nothing to do with tranquillity, as generals are then laid aſide to ruſt with their ſwords. Still, however, they durſt not openly avow their diſinclination to peace. Prince Eugene inſiſted, that the entire ceſſion of the Spaniſh monarchy ſhould be an indiſpenſible preliminary to the treaty; Marlborough at the ſame time took care to circulate a ſuſpicion that the court of Verſailles was not ſincere in her profeſſions, and only aimed at amuſing and deceiving the allies. The well-known propenſity of that court to chicane and ſubterfuge, procured a ready credence to ſuch an opinion, notwithſtanding the miſeries which had overſpread that kingdom were the fulleſt atteſtations of her extorted ſincerity. Deſpair was diffuſed through the nation; every quarter of Europe beheld the diſgraces and downfall of France. The confederates, by being in poſſeſſion of Liſle, threatened to penetrate into the heart of the kingdom. The ſame king, who had brought the republic of Holland to the brink of deſtruction in a ſingle campaign, and who but a few years before had carried his arms to the banks of the Danube, the Po, and the Tagus, now trembled for the ſafety of his capital. The name of Marlborough became as dreadful to the Pariſians, as our Edwards and

Henrys

Henrys had been to their forefathers. In this ſtate of affairs the Marquis de Torci was ſent to Holland, with powers to put an end, upon the moſt humiliating terms, to a war, that even threatened the deſtruction of the French monarchy; and Rouille, the former miniſter, was recalled. France agreed to yield the whole Spaniſh monarchy to the houſe of Auſtria without any equivalent. To cede her conqueſts on the empire, and upon the Upper Rhine: to give Furnes, Ypres, Menin, Tournay, Liſle, Condé, and Maubeuge, for a barrier to Holland. To acknowledge the Elector of Brandenburgh as King of Pruſſia; the Duke of Hanover as ninth elector of the empire: to own the title of Queen Anne to the Britiſh throne; to remove the pretender from the dominions of France: to recogniſe the ſucceſſion of the throne of Great Britain in the proteſtant line: to reſtore every thing to the Duke of Savoy: and to agree to the conceſſions made to the King of Portugal by his treaty with the allies. The demolition of Dunkirk was farther inſiſted on in the conferences at the Hague, with M. de Torci, for ſettling the preliminaries of a general peace; and, that miniſter ſhewing greater reluctance to conſent to this, than to any other of the articles, alleging, that his maſter bought, and paid for this town and port, beſides laying out immenſe ſums upon it ſince,---it ſo provoked Prince Eugene, that he told the French miniſters, with great warmth, he wondered they ſhould ſpend ſo many words about it, and that they ought rather to admire the generoſity of a princeſs, who, having it her power to preſcribe them harder terms, and force them to deliver that, and what other places ſhe pleaſed, and revive other pretenſions of the crown of England, gave an unparalleled example of her moderation. This had ſuch an effect, that the point was immediately given up. But even this did not ſatisfy the allies. One fruitleſs conference followed another. At length Heinſius framed forty preliminary articles, which

which were to form the basis of a general peace. The plenipotentiaries on the side of France agreed to thirty-five of them, the rest were submitted to the decision of Louis, for which purpose the Marquis de Torci repaired to Versailles. Ruined as the affairs of France were, that court had spirit enough to reject the proffered terms. In order to rouse the people from that torpor into which they had sunk, the court published an account of the negotiation, explaining their own concessions, and the haughty terms prescribed by the allies. The king himself wrote to all the governors of the provinces, stating the whole transaction, and feelingly rousing their indignation. The spirit of the French nation was rekindled, and their resentment added fresh fuel to the flames of war.

When the conferences at the Hague were ended, vigorous preparations were immediately made for prosecuting the war. On the 9th of June, 1709, the Duke of Marlborough left the Hague to take the command of the combined army in Flanders; Prince Eugene commanded under Marlborough. This army amounted 110,000 men; the army of France which was opposed to it, was commanded by Marshal Villars, and was somewhat less numerous. Towards the latter end of June the campaign opened. Villars occupied a strong post, by which he covered the cities of Doway and Arras, the reducing of which barriers would have opened for the allies a wide passage into the heart of France. To force the French general in his intrenchments was thought an enterprise of too great risk; Marlborough therefore by a hasty march sat down before Tournay. This is one of the strongest and most ancient cities in Flanders. It had been for time immemorial subject to France, till it fell into the hands of Henry VIII. King of England, in the year 1513. It was, however, restored five years after, through the intrigues of Cardinal Wolsey, under the notion of a dower with the Princess Mary, who was then an infant, but bethrothed

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to the dauphin. It afterwards remained in the hands of the French for a century, when it was taken by the Spaniards in 1618. Louis XIV. made himself master of it in person in 1667; he laid out 1,000,000 in fortifying it, and its citadel was looked upon as the master piece of one of the first engineers in the world. The garrison consisted of eleven battalions, three squadrons of dragoons, three independent companies of 100 men each, 800 invalids, half a Swiss company, 100 miners, and two companies of grenadiers. It was well stored with powder and ammunition of all sorts, but scantily furnished with provisions and money. Lieutenant-general Surville commanded there, the same gentleman who distinguished himself at the siege of Lisle. As soon as he perceived the allies about to invest the town, he carried off all the corn which he could find in the adjacent villages; but the party he detached to bring in the cattle was intercepted. Villars made several attempts to throw in a supply, but they were all defeated, notwithstanding he opened the sluices, and overflowed all the country. The Earl of Orkney made himself master of the strong post of Mortagne without losing a man, notwithstanding that it was a place strong by situation, and had a garrison determined to defend it to the very last. There was no passage to attack it but a narrow causeway, in the middle of which was a draw-bridge, which the earl saw could not easily be reached by his field-pieces; however, he caused them to play for a considerable time to amuse the garrison, while, by the help of an old boat, he passed, at several times, a detachment of grenadiers over the morass, and, these advancing suddenly on the other side, the garrison intimidated immediately abandoned the place, crossed the Schelde over a bridge laid for that purpose, and left his lordship a post of very great consequence. The Prince of Orange had before taken St. Amand; this detachment returned to the camp the 1st of July;

on the 3d the posts were distributed, and directions given for carrying on the several attacks.

The trenches were opened in the night between the 7th and 8th of July, within half musket-shot of the town, on the attack of General Lottum, without the loss of a man. On the side of General Schulembourg's attack, ground was broken within 200 paces of the counterscarp, wherein seven men were killed and twelve wounded. On the third attack commanded by General Fagel, they advanced within 250 paces of the palisade; but the Marquis de Surville made such a terrible fire on this side that there were no less than forty-five men killed and wounded. The Duke of Marlborough commanded in chief; the three generals before-mentioned acted only according to his orders.

It would be inconsistent with the brevity of this work to enter into an exact detail of the siege. Suffice it to observe, that it was carried on with the greatest vigour imaginable by the confederates, and that M. de Surville did more than was expected from him in its defence; though his garrison was but very small, he made frequent sallies, and sprung such a number of mines with such judgment and such success, that it cost the allies a great number of men; however, the presence of the Duke of Marlborough and the warmth with which he pressed forward whatever scheme he undertook, surmounted all difficulties; so that, by the latter end of the month M. de Surville found the town in a miserable condition, himself and his garrison much fatigued, little hopes of relief, and less means of subsistence. On the side of General Lottum's attack there was, through the fault of the engineer, some recess for two or three days. Brigadier Grumkau at last attacked the ravelin, and in spite of the terrible fire from the town, made a lodgment there; but, discovering the next morning that there was no communication between it and his attack, he resolved to complete

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it in open day. With this view he gave an Engliſh ſoldier a piſtole, and promiſed him a ſhilling for every gabion which he fixed from the lodgment along the paliſades of the covered-way to the point of the ſaliant angle. The ſoldier undertook it, and placed fifty in two hours, which were filled with earth by 100 labourers: a prodigious inſtance of mercenary courage! On the 28th, Monſieur de Surville perceiving that the breaches in the body of the place, on the ſide of the attack of the Generals Lottum and Schulembourg, were large enough to be attacked, he cauſed a white flag to be hung out at all three attacks, and beat the chamade about ſeven in the evening. Hoſtages were immediately exchanged, and the articles were quickly adjuſted. Leave was given to an officer to carry the articles of capitulation to the camp of Marſhal Villars; he was likewiſe furniſhed with a paſſport for his return. The next day M. de Surville dined with Prince Eugené, and retired in the evening into the citadel, into which his garriſon conſiſting of 3500 foot and 500 diſmounted dragoons marched before. The loſs of the allies, according to their printed computations, amounted to 3210 men killed and wounded; but, the French affirm that they loſt at leaſt 5000 men before the place; 800 of the French ſick and wounded were conducted to Doway, according to the articles; and the Earl of Albemarle, at the head of twelve battalions, took poſſeſſion of the town for the allies.

Hoſtilities were renewed on the 1ſt of Auguſt, and on the third one of the magazines in the citadel blew up. But Megrigny commander of the citadel had ſo undermined all the ground, and was ſo very vigilant in defence of the place, that the allies began to be of opinion this ſiege would coſt them a prodigious number of men. On this account they liſtened readily to a propoſal made by the beſieged, to prevent the effuſion of blood. M. de Ravignan was choſen by the garriſon to confer with M. Lallo, a brigadier in the Engliſh

ſervice, in high eſteem with the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene. M. de Ravignan obſerved, that by the army at preſent before the citadel, which conſiſted but of thirty battalions and twenty-five ſquadrons, it was not likely the ſiege would be over till the 5th of September; he therefore offered that 100 men from the confederate army ſhould take poſt at a gate of the citadel during that ſpace, and that the grand army ſhould be at liberty to act as the generals ſhould think fit; and, in caſe the place was not relieved before the ſaid day, then it ſhould be delivered, in the condition it was, into the hands of the allies. The Duke of Marlborough readily agreed to it, and M. de Ravignan was ſent immediately with it to Verſailles for the French king's ratification; but, on the 8th of Auguſt he returned with this anſwer, that, the king would not conſent thereto, unleſs the grand army continued all that time in inaction; which propoſition his grace the Duke of Marlborough rejected with contempt, and hoſtilities were immediately renewed, both parties being piqued by this agreement, the one to take the citadel before the 5th of September, and the other to preſerve it as long as they could beyond that time.

The allies, that they might ſpare their men as much as poſſible, proceeded by ſap, but not without many untoward accidents, owing chiefly to the ſkill of M. de Megrigny. On the 4th of Auguſt a bomb fell in one of the ſaps, which killed M. de Benenbourg, aid-major of the trenches, a ſerjeant, a corporal, and three private men. On the 13th the allies offered, by proclamation, a piſtole a day to ſuch volunteers as would enter the mines, where there happened continual ſkirmiſhes in the dark, in which the allies had moſtly the better; Prince Eugene having had the precaution to ſend to the Duke of Savoy for 200 miners who had ſerved in the ſiege of Turin. The ſame day the beſiegers broke into two of M. de Megrigny's mines, immediately under one of their batteries of mortars. In

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one of these there was nothing but powder; in the other, besides four tuns of powder, there were twelve bombs ready filled. On the 15th M. de Surville made a sally, and drove the besiegers from a post they had taken; but, being repulsed, and 150 men taking possession of the lodgment, the enemy sprung a mine, blew them all into the air, and overturned all the gabions. In the night between the 16th and the 17th there happened a long and fierce combat in the mines, which ended at last in favour of the besiegers. On the 20th M. de Surville caused a wall to be blown up which hung over a sap, and thereby smothered a captain, a lieutenant, thirty soldiers, and five miners. On the 23d a mine was discovered which would have blown up a whole battalion of Hanoverian troops, but the same night the besieged sprung another which was beneath it, and did a great deal of mischief. In the night of the 24th the besieged made a sally unexpectedly, and with a strange design; they carried off forty-two horses, which as soon as they got within the citadel they killed and salted, being in extreme want of provisions. On the 26th an inhabitant of Tournay went to the Earl of Albemarle and offered to discover one of the principal mines of the citadel, on condition he would make him head gaoler of all the prisoners of Tournay; this was agreed to, and the man performed what he had undertaken, so that 300 men were posted in the mine, with 800 in the town-ditch to support them; but, in the middle of night M. de Megrigny sprung two mines, one immediately under the large mine, in which all the 300 men before-mentioned were stifled, the other threw up a part of the ditch and buried 100 men. On the 28th in the morning M. du May, the besiegers' chief engineer, had his skull fractured by a stone from the citadel: he was trepanned upon the spot, but died the next day. On the 31st M. de Surville beat the chamade, and proposed to surrender; and, after hostages exchanged, M. Dolet

Dolet and the M. de Ravignan went to the Earl of Albemarle's houſe, where the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene were, and preſented a capituation conſiſting of eleven articles. The Duke of Marlborough would ſcarcely permit them to be read, telling theſe gentlemen at the ſame time that they were to expect no terms but that of being made priſoners of war. They thereupon retired into the citadel again, and hoſtilities were immediately recommenced; but on the 3d of September M. de Surville was obliged to give up the place, there not being an ounce of meal of any ſort left. In pity to this gentleman, the duke receded a little from the harſh terms he offered, admitting that the garriſon ſhould march out with arms and baggage, but that they ſhould be taken from them as ſoon as they were in the field; that they ſhould be conducted to Doway; but that the Marquis de Surville and M. Megrignan, lieutenant-generals, Meſſieurs de Ravignan and Dolet, marſhals de camp, with two brigadiers, ſhould remain as hoſtages for the releaſement of the like number of priſoners taken by the French. Thus ended a ſiege of fifty-ſix days open trenches, in which the garriſon loſt not leſs than 3000 men, though M. de Surville endeavoured to make it believed that not above 1400 had been killed, having to that end ſet on foot a new regiment, conſiſting of officers ſervants, deſerters, and ſutlers, who were forced to fight when they had nothing to ſell. But indiſputably the place had held out much longer, and coſt the allies a far greater number of men, if there had been in it a garriſon and proviſions ſuitable to the extent of the place.

As ſoon as Tournay was taken, the generals of the allies reſolved to undertake ſome new expedition of importance, and the ſiege of Mons was reſolved on; or, as M. du Mont judiciouſly expreſſes it, that city offered itſelf to their arms, as being a place of great conſequence, and the only one which they could conveniently inveſt; for, as the Marſhal de Villars had poſted his

his army, Doway, Condé, and Valenciennes, were equally covered. The Elector of Bavaria penetrated so exactly the designs of the allies, that he immediately quitted Mons, where he had hitherto resided, and retired to Namur with his equipage and furniture. It was strange M. de Villars did not take the hint of his electoral highness's retiring to throw some troops into Mons, the garrison of which was as feeble as that of Tournay. He saw his error when it was too late, and lost a battle by endeavouring to repair it. The allies were so sensible of the condition of the place, that the first thing they did was to send the Prince of Hesse Cassel with sixty squadrons, supported by 4000 foot, to force the French lines in the neighbourhood of that city, and to prevent their throwing any troops into it from the posts they possessed in its neighbourhood. The Prince of Hesse left the camp on the 3d of September, in the evening, the very day that the citadel of Tournay surrendered: by two in the morning the whole army was in march to support him, but the heavy rains which fell the next day exceedingly impeded them. The Prince of Hesse however advanced with better success, and arrived on the fifth in sight of the lines. He would gladly have attacked them that night, but it was so dark that he did not think it prudent. The next morning it was out of his power, for the French had abandoned them. His highness pursued them for several hours, but finding it impossible to come up with them, he returned to the village of Quens, where he encamped his right, stretching his left to Trouille, cutting off thereby all communication between the town and the enemy's camp. On the 7th about two in the afternoon the Duke of Marlborough continued his march, and, having passed the Trouille and the French lines, posted his left at Quevy and his right at Carignon. The same night his grace and Prince Eugene supped with the hereditary Prince of Hesse Cassel, who, on their complimenting him on the happy

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ſucceſs of his expedition, was pleaſed to anſwer, "that the French had utterly deprived him of the glory of it, by not ſo much as ſeeming to ſtay for him." On the 8th in the morning the army of Prince Eugene, having alſo paſſed the Trouille, took poſt on the right of that of the Duke of Marlborough.

Theſe motions had ſo much alarmed the Marſhal de Villars, that he diſpatched an expreſs to court that he might have the king's orders as to venturing a battle. Marſhal de Boufflers brought the French king's orders to fight, if it was neceſſary, rather than ſuffer Mons to be beſieged; and, in conſequence of this, orders were ſent to ſeveral detachments to come and join the army.

On the 6th the marſhal paſſed the Schelde at Valenciennes with all his troops, and encamped at Quevrain. On the 7th they paſſed the Honneau, and encamped with their right at Attiche, and their left at Montrevil. On the 8th they remained in their camp, and were joined by the Count d'Artagnan, with the body of troops under his command, which had been ſtrengthened by great detachments from the garriſons of Ypres, Dunkirk, Air, Doway, Arras, and Cambray. The next day the French poſſeſſed themſelves of the woods of Lagnieres, La Maſtre, Tanieres, and Sart, with the hedges adjoining, where they poſted their infantry: they likewiſe poſſeſſed themſelves of the village of Malplaquet, and of the hedges adjoining, drawing their cavalry up in the openings between the woods.--- On this the confederate army had orders to march by the left in order to front the enemy, their right extending to Sart, their left to Bleron, their head-quarters being at Blaregnies; by this means the left wing was within cannon-ſhot of the enemy by two o'clock in the afternoon, but the Engliſh troops making a forage that day, and not returning till evening, there was ſo little day-light left that nothing more than cannonading paſſed till it was dark. The French worked hard all night

night in fortifying their camp, though wonderfully ſtrong by nature. They made deep lines along the whole front behind the thick hedges; and on the right, though they had a moraſs before them, they threw up three entrenchments one behind another: they threw up likewiſe ſeveral entrenchments in the plain before their centre, and mounted on them all ſuch a quantity of artillery as gave it more the air of a fortreſs than a camp; beſides, they cut down trees, chained them, and diſpoſed them in ſuch a manner as hindered the cavalry of the allies from acting at all; they likewiſe cut down all the hedges behind, that their own horſe might be at liberty to move as there might be occaſion. It is the common opinion of the Engliſh and Dutch writers who have mentioned this affair, that if the allies had immediately attacked the enemy the victory had been cheaper and more entire. On the 10th in the morning the cannonading recommenced, but nothing farther happened, becauſe the generals reſolved to wait the coming up of twenty battalions from Tournay. A deſerter having given intelligence that the poſt of St. Guilain was very weakly guarded, Lieutenant-general Dedum was ſent to attack it, that in caſe of misfortune there might be a road open to Aeth. His detachment conſiſted of 2000 men; and he had with him four pieces of cannon, but upon his arrival the French immediately beat the chamade and ſurrendered priſoners war, which was indeed all they could do, there being in the place but 200 men. An expreſs diſpatched to haſten the march of the battalions from Tournay, returned in the evening with news that they were in full march, and would certainly join the army in the morning, which was the 11th of September 1709, on which was fought the famous battle of Malplaquet, called alſo the battle of Mons, the battle of Tanieres, the battle of Blaregnies, and the battle of the Wood.

As there is great diverſity among the ſeveral accounts we have of this battle, the reader muſt excuſe ſome

recapitulations which are found neceſſary in order to ſet the different opinions of writers on this ſubject in their proper light. That the whole of the relation may be as clear and as connected as poſſible, we ſhall begin with ſhewing the diſpoſition of the enemy, and then proceed to the deſcription of the attack.

The right wing of the Marſhal de Villars's army was ſtretched to the wood of Lagniere on one ſide, and on the other to the wood of Janſart, that is, it took up the whole ſpace between thoſe woods, and was in part covered with that laſt-mentioned; it had before it hedges extremely thick, ſeveral deep ditches, and three entrenchments, one behind another. The centre took up the whole opening between the woods of Janſart and Sart, and formed ſomething more than a ſemi-circle, ſo that its middle was flanked by its extremities. There was beſides this a hamlet before it full of infantry and artillery, and the whole ſpace from one wood to another had a good entrenchment. The left wing was poſted part in the wood of Sart and part behind in the plain; beſides the wood which naturally covered them, the enemy had raiſed up piles of faſcines with ſtakes before them, and where they might play moſt to advantage, had planted ſeveral pieces of cannon. Throughout their whole diſpoſition there were ſeveral openings for their horſe to advance when it was neceſſary. Their artillery was well diſpoſed; and M. Villars ſuffered neither tent nor baggage to remain in the field, that his troops might not be incommoded. When the action was about to commence, he yielded the right to M. de Boufflers as the oldeſt officer, but he retained the command till he was wounded.

As to the diſpoſition of the allies, it is ſufficient to obſerve here, that Prince Eugene with his troops acted upon the right, the Duke of Marlborough commanded in the centre, and Count Tilly with the Prince of Orange was at the head of the Dutch troops on the left. The confederates had a battery of twenty-eight

pieces of cannon on the left, another of forty in the centre, and the reſt of the artillery was diſtributed on the right. The morning of the battle was obſcured by a very thick fog, which favoured the allies in diſpoſing their troops and raiſing their batteries very much. About half an hour after ſeven it cleared up, and gave the armies a diſtinct view of each other. A little after eight the confederates gave the ſignal for the attack to be made, by a diſcharge of fifty pieces of cannon.

Prince Eugene of Savoy, with eighty-ſix battalions of his right wing, immediately entered the wood of Sart, and attacked the enemy with the utmoſt vigour. Count Lottum with twenty-two battalions did the like between Prince Eugene's attack and the poſt of the Duke of Marlborough. The action was very warm, and the troops of the allies were more than once repulſed; but Prince Eugene animated the troops in ſuch a manner, and directed every thing with ſuch coolneſs, the battery from the centre playing all the time on the enemy's flank, that at laſt they began to give way; but his highneſs, advancing to give orders, received a wound by a muſket-ſhot behind the ear. Thoſe who were next him intreated the prince to have it dreſſed; but he anſwered that it would be time enough in the evening, and at the ſame time galloped to another place where his preſence was neceſſary. In about two hours the French were effectually ruined on this ſide, their whole left wing being driven out of the woods, and forced upon their centre. The attack made by the left wing of the allies began about half an hour after that on the right, but continued much longer and with far greater loſs of blood. It hath been before obſerved, that beſides thick hedges the French had there no leſs than three entrenchments well furniſhed with artillery. The Prince of Orange, who commanded thirty Dutch battalions, ſuſtained by fifteen other battalions of Pruſ

ſian, Hanoverian, and Heſſian, troops, attacked theſe fortifications with prodigious valour. He forced the firſt and ſecond entrenchments with great loſs, and encouraged the ſoldiers to attack the third; but the French, reinforced by a numerous detachment from the centre, not only baffled the efforts of the Dutch in endeavouring to force their laſt entrenchments, but, falling on them with new vigour, drove them from thoſe they had before taken into their firſt poſts, retook nine colours of which they had made themſelves maſters, and made themſelves maſters of ſix of theirs. His highneſs of Orange, as ſoon as the troops had drawn breath, advanced again at their head, with a pair of colours in his hand, and led them to attack a ſecond time thoſe entrenchments which they had gained and loſt. In this attack they had the ſame ſucceſs as before, they forced the two firſt intrenchments, but they were unable to drive the French from the laſt. When the enemy's left began to retire and draw off their cannon, the Earl of Orkney was detached with fifteen or twenty battalions to force their entrenchments in the plain between the woods, which ſervice that nobleman performed with ſurpriſing celerity as well as ſucceſs, and to which was chiefly owing the entire defeat of the French army; for the Prince d'Auvergne, with a body of horſe entering the plain, found the cavalry of the enemy in good order and ready to receive him; he attacked them nevertheleſs, and puſhed the firſt ſquadrons above 200 paces; but, the houſhold troops of France attacked him with ſuch vigour, that they not only regained their ground, but forced the horſe of the allies in great diſorder to retire towards the entrenchments lined by the Earl of Orkney and his detachment. Under their cover other detachments of horſe formed and entered the plain, till at laſt the French every where gave way. The Prince of Heſſe took this opportunity to charge the enemy's right wing in flank, which put them into

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ſuch confuſion, that the Prince of Orange, who had been hitherto able to make no impreſſion, now conſtrained them to quit their laſt entrenchment. The French, ſeeing now no hopes of victory left, did all they could to ſave their cannon and to make a handſome retreat. Their horſe continued to fight about half an hour longer, but with great diſadvantage. M. Buleau entered the plain with his ſquadrons from the right of the duke's army, and the Count de Feltz did the ſame with a conſiderable body of Imperial horſe. The Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene came thither ſoon after in perſon. This ſtand of their cavalry gave time to their foot to draw together and to retire in tolerable order. General Vink with a body of the confederate horſe ſurrounded a great many battalions of the enemy's right, and ſummoned them to ſurrender priſoners of war; but the officer who commanded them, marching along a narrow road with a moraſs on one ſide and a wood on the other, found means to extricate himſelf, but not without conſiderable loſs. The generals, perceiving that the French retired by ſeveral defilees, ſuffered the horſe to continue the purſuit; but, eighteen ſquadrons advancing farther than the reſt, in order to diſperſe the enemy, turning the corner of a wood found their whole left wing in very good order, with the Marſhal de Boufflers at their head: Colonel de la Lippe and another officer, who had turned a little too quick, were made priſoners. Theſe eighteen ſquadrons took poſt on the ſide of a wood, expecting that the French would attack them, but Marſhal Boufflers continued his march. The allies continued the purſuit as far as the village of Quievrain, where the French having poſted a brigade of foot, and ſome of their ſquadrons taking poſſeſſion of the eminences thereabouts, the allies ſuffered them to paſs the Haineau, and to retire unmoleſted to Bavay. The reſt of their army had taken the roads of Valenciennes and Condé, leaving the confederates maſters of the field

field of battle, fourteen pieces of cannon, and twenty-five ſtandards and colours, amongſt them the *blanche cornette*, the firſt ſtandard of the light horſe of France. Such was the iſſue of this obſtinate engagement, which, though far leſs deciſive than the battles of Hochſtet and Turin, was more bloody than either.

We are now to ſpeak of the loſs which the allies ſuſtained in this battle, and which, from the account we have given of it, the reader cannot wonder was very great. M. du Mont, whoſe accounts are generally juſt and exact, reckons thus: Of the infantry in the army of Prince Eugene, he ſays there were 1984 killed, and 3431 wounded; of the infantry in the army of the Duke of Marlborough 3563 killed, and 9375 wounded; the loſs of the horſe killed and wounded, according to him, amounted to 2900; total, 20,300 men; upon which this gentleman makes the following remark; "This was certainly too much for a victory accompanied with no other advantage but the entire defeat of the enemy, and the only fruit of which was taking a ſingle place." The Imperialiſts and Engliſh did not ſuffer much; their horſe eſcaped mighty well, and of their foot they had not above thirty killed and ſixty wounded in any battalion. It did not fare ſo with the Dutch; they bore the burden of all, and the victory was bought with their blood. Of 20,000 killed and wounded in this battle, 11,000 belonged to them, though the troops of the States did not make a fourth part of the army. The ſecond and third battalion of the Dutch guards, which conſiſted upwards of 1200 men, were reduced to leſs than 500, and out of ten captains they had eight killed on the ſpot. The company of cadets was ſo terribly maltreated, that only three eſcaped without wounds. The regiments of Heukelum, Yvoy, Soutland, Berkhoffer, Palland, Naſſau Woudenbourg, and Sturler, were in the ſame plight, as were alſo the Scotch regiments in the Dutch ſervice, viz. Tullibardine, Hepburn, and Swinton, all

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their colonels being killed.. They likewiſe loſt the Lieutenant-generals Baron Spar, Count Oxenſtiern, and M. Weck, the Marquis of Tullibardine, the adjutant to the Prince of Orange, and a vaſt number of other officers of diſtinction." From very particular liſts printed by authority, it appears that there were in the two armies of Prince Eugene and the Duke of Marlborough 129 battalions: the total of the killed and wounded was 8353. In Prince Eugene's there were twelve Dutch battalions, and the total of their killed and wounded was 1599. In the army of the Duke of Marlborough there were thirty Dutch battalions, and the total of their killed and wounded amounted to 8463; in all their killed and wounded amounted to 10,062; which is more in proportion than M. du Mont's account makes them. Other nations however loſt ſeveral officers of great note, particularly the Pruſſians, of whom General Lottum and General Tettau were killed on the ſpot. Of the Britiſh troops, Brigadier Lallo, a gentleman much regretted, was killed, together with the famous Sir Thomas Pendergaſt, who did the nation ſuch eminent ſervice in the buſineſs of the aſſaſſination plot; Colonel Rivet of the guards, who when he found his wound permitted him to ſtand returned to the charge and died fighting. Colonel Cranſton, Lieutenant-colonel Arundel and Lieutenant-colonel Bethel, Lieutenant-colonel Ramſay, Major Laſhly, and Major Rew, died of their wounds. Among the wounded were Prince Eugene, Lieutenant generals Wackerbaert, Hamilton, and Webb, Brigadier Croonſtrom, Lieutenant-colonel Farmer, Major Chivers, &c. The unproportioned loſs of the Dutch occaſioned many ſpeculations; the Prince of Orange, who certainly behaved very bravely, is ſaid to have complained of not being ſupported; he had in this action two horſes killed under him, one of his aid-de-camps and one of his gentlemen fell by his ſide, and two or three other of his domeſtics ſhared the ſame fate. The

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loſs of the French is not certainly known, but it is generally believed that it amounted to at leaſt 17,000 killed and wounded, though M. de Quincy ſays that their whole loſs did not exceed 8000; but amongſt theſe there were a great number of perſons of diſtinction, particularly the following officers, who were killed: the Count de Chemerault, lieutenant-general; M. de Pallavicini, lieutenant-general; the Marquis de Charoſt, Count de Beuil, Chevalier de Croy, and Count de Angennes, brigadiers; M. de Stekenburg and Count de Rochbonne, colonels of horſe; the Count de Briorde, captain in the genſdarmerie. Among the wounded were the Chevalier de St. George, who had a deep cut in his right arm; he happened to be ſick at Queſnoy of a fever, but arrived poſt in the army juſt as the action began; the Count de Monteſſon, lieutenant-general, who commanded in chief the troops of the houſhold, entreated him to put himſelf at the head of that corps, which he accordingly did, and was preſent in the twelve charges which thoſe troops gave and received before they were broken by the horſe of the allies, and in the laſt charge received the cut in the arm before-mentioned; the Marſhal de Villars was dangerouſly wounded in the knee, when the left wing of the French army was driven from its poſts by Prince Eugene; M. d'Albergotti, the Duke de Guiche, and Meſſieurs de Coutenfau, lieutenant-generals; M. de Coerquen, Marſhal de Camp, had his leg ſhot away; the Duke de St. Aignan, colonel of horſe, and the Chevalier de Montmorency, marſhal de camp, both received dangerous wounds. Brigadier Deſgreberg, upwards of ſeventy years old, had both his legs ſhot away in the firſt cannonading.

After the engagement was over, there was, as we have obſerved, no great ſlaughter made in the retreat. The next day was ſpent by the allies in burying their dead; and, it being diſcovered that great numbers of the French left on the field of battle and in the adjacent

cent houſes, were not mortally wounded, the Duke of Marlborough immediately ſent to inform the Marſhals Boufflers and Villars that they might ſend a certain number of waggons to carry them off, and in the mean time his grace poſted a guard to prevent any of theſe unhappy people from being any way injured. The French generals were extremely well pleaſed with this act of civility, and ſent the Chevalier de Luxemburg a lieutenant-general, with 200 horſe, to ſettle matters with the general appointed by the allies, of which when the duke had notice, he made choice of Lieutenant-general Cadogan, who in a few hours adjuſted all things with M. de Luxembourg, and, having left a commiſſary to take a liſt of the wounded on the paroles of the officers, he returned to the camp. The French ſpent two days in burying the dead and carrying off the wounded, of whom there were 1500 acknowledged priſoners of war, and who it was agreed ſhould not ſerve till a like number of priſoners ſhould be releaſed by the French.

After this battle, M. de Villars had it in his power to have ſtrengthened the garriſon of Mons, to which end he detached the brigade of Picardy; but, it was ſo terribly fatigued by the great ſervice it had for many days endured, that when it arrived within a league of Mons, there were not 200 men with the colours. The Chevalier de Livry, with one battalion, entered the place, and made a poor addition to a weak and diſpirited garriſon, very unfit for the defence of ſo large as well as ſo important a place.

The French flattered themſelves, as M. de Quincy expreſsly tells us, with the hopes, that, after the great loſs the allies had ſuſtained in their infantry in the battle of Malplaquet, they would not be able to undertake any ſiege this campaign; but, they were deceived. Prince Eugene determined the council of war, which was held ſhortly after the battle, to reſolve on cauſing Mons to be immediately inveſted, that the

world might be convinced the allies had more than a nominal victory at Malplaquet; part therefore of the infantry which had ſuffered moſt was ſent into garriſon, and battalions drawn from thoſe garriſons repaired to the army, ſo that on the 20th inſtant, all things being ready, Mons was inveſted by the Prince of Orange, at the head of thirty battalions and as many ſquadrons; but the day before, by the diligence of the officer who commanded them, three French battalions arrived in the place, otherwiſe the defence would have been very ſhort, for, in the condition the garriſon was in, there were ſcarcely men enough to mount guard and to relieve it.

Mons is the capital of the province of Hainault, one of the fineſt cities in the Spaniſh Flanders; its ſituation is equally advantageous in point of ſtrength and pleaſantneſs. Its fortifications were regular and well contrived, and its walls of great extent, fortified with three deep ditches, and adorned with fine walks, ſhaded with pleaſant trees. This city has a noble caſtle, its ſtreets are large, well paved, and the buildings ſtately. The market place is very ſpacious, and there is a great trade carried on in grograms, ſays, and other worſted manufactures. Mons is watered by two rivers, the Trouille and the Haine, the former cutting it through the lower ſide. Its great ſecurity conſiſted in that facility which it derived from its ſituation of laying all the adjacent country under water, with which, and a garriſon proportionate to its extent, and the multiplicity of its works, it might certainly be preſerved againſt almoſt any force that could beſiege it. At this time the Count de Grimaldi, lieutenant-general in the ſervice of Spain, commanded there. The Count Bergeick, miniſter of King Philip, and who had the management of his finances in Flanders, remained there, and was of great uſe to the garriſon, becauſe he employed the money he had in his hands, to furniſh them with proviſions and other things of which they ſtood

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in need. The Baron de Malknegt, minister of the Elector of Bavaria, was also in it, probably with a view to encourage the garrison the better to do its duty, as well as to take care of some effects and furniture which his highness had left behind him.

The Prince of Orange, who was to command this siege, had under him the following general officers of the infantry: the Lieutenant-generals Pettendorf, Rantzau, and Dohna; Major-generals Lord North and Grey, Sackens, Els, Ammama, and Ivoy; Brigadiers Evans, Earl of Orrery, Weeks, Horst, Rechteren, and Ockinga; of the cavalry, Lieutenant-general Schulemburg, Major-generals Stain, Chanclos, and Chens; and Brigadiers Fabricius and Hunderbein.

The trenches were opened on the 25th, and the siege was carried on with extraordinary vigour; and, that the French might see what an opinion the confederates had of their attempting any thing to disturb this siege, it was made without any lines of circumvallation. On the 1st of October, Major-general Ivoy advanced at the head of a detachment, to attack the horn-work and the redoubt which covered the mills where the besieged ground their corn. The general had with him a few pieces of cannon, which having played for a small time on those outworks, his men advanced, though the water came up to their waists, to give the assault, upon which the troops posted in the horn-work and redoubt surrendered prisoners of war. The taking of this post was of very great consequence to the besiegers; for they made themselves masters of forty sacks of meal, two pieces of cannon, and a considerable quantity of ammunition; and, what was of far greater use, a sluice, by which they let out a vast quantity of water, which must otherwise have given them a great deal of trouble. The 16th of October in the morning, the besiegers attacked with great vigour the second counterscarp of the horn-work, and carried it after a short resistance: they afterwards dis-

charged a ſhower of bombs and ſtones on the horn-work of Bertamont, which ſo incommoded the French, that they quitted it; ſo that, when the beſiegers came to ſtorm it, they found, to their great ſurpriſe, nobody to oppoſe them. By the 20th the breaches were almoſt practicable, and the beſiegers made great preparations for a general aſſault. The garriſon thereupon hung out two white flags, one at each attack. Hoſtages were immediately exchanged, and thoſe from the town being ſent with the articles, they brought them to the camp of Prince Eugene and the Duke of Marlborough; all things were ſpeedily adjuſted, the garriſon being allowed to march out with all the marks of honour, except cannon and mortar; and, General Grimaldi having ſigned this capitulation, Prince Eugene and the Duke of Marlborough, as a mark of their reſpect, granted him two pieces of cannon and one mortar; with theſe and other marks of honour he marched out on the 23d, at the head of a garriſon, if it might be ſo called, conſiſting only of a few hundred men, the reſt being all either ſick, wounded, or not inclined to continue any longer in ſo unfortunate a ſervice.

Count Dhona, to whom the government of Mons was given, took poſſeſſion of it the ſame day, with a detachment which was to remain in garriſon during the winter. The ſeaſon being far advanced, the winter-quarters were ſettled immediately after the reduction of Mons. On the 28th the army ſeparated; the Britiſh troops marched to Ghent, the Danes to Bruges, the Pruſſians were quartered along the Maeſe, and the other troops in the Spaniſh Netherlands. For the better preventing any attempts the enemy might make in the winter, the Earl of Albemarle was left to command in chief in Flanders, and a ſufficient number of general officers were ordered to remain with the troops quartered in moſt of the great towns of that country. The Duke of Marlborough returned to England, and

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Prince Eugene to Germany; and thus ended the campaign in Flanders.

In Germany the remonſtrances of the Queen of Great Britain and the States General were renewed with greater warmth than ever, as indeed there was greater reaſon. The Elector of Hanover, who was to command again upon the Rhine, had formed a project in conjunction with the Duke of Savoy which muſt have deſtroyed France. In order to this he deſired only a moderate ſupply of men and money: the latter he fixed at 1,000,000 of crowns, which he deſired might be depoſited in the military cheſt at Franckfort; as to the former, he inſiſted upon 80,000 men, which were promiſed him. However, when the ſeaſon approached, things went in their old channel, and the elector's army was rather weaker than the year before. General Thungen drew it together behind the lines of Etlingen, where he remained expecting the Elector of Hanover, and certain reinforcements he was to bring with him.

As for the French army, it was alſo but in a weak ſtate; and the Marſhal de Harcourt, who was appointed to command it, went with great reluctance to Straſbourg. He had under him the Count du Bourg and ſeveral other lieutenant-generals of merit, to whom, at the very beginning of the campaign, he declared that he depended wholly on their vigilance and counſels. It was peculiar to that general, that he ſeemed to be the only man in France to whom his own abilities were not known, and yet he never failed to exert them when there was occaſion; but his modeſty was ſo great, that on every ſucceſsful event he was ready to attribute all things to the officers under him, and nothing to himſelf, which was the reaſon that he was better ſerved than any other general in the world; all the generals who acted under him knowing that their ſervices would not only be acknowledged, but over-paid.

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The Elector of Hanover, who joined the army in the latter end of June, resolved, though he had neither the men nor the money which had been promised him, to attempt the execution of the grand project which he had formed. This project was to send a great detachment across the Rhine into the Upper Alsace, and to follow it with his whole army, while the Duke of Savoy passing the Rhone penetrated into Franche Comté, and in this project his electoral highness had certainly succeeded, if the officers under him had acted with the same prudence that his highness did. The first step he took was to send a corps of troops to Agembach, where the French had a detachment, which they withdrew however, on the approach of the Imperial troops. His electoral highness afterwards detached Count Mercy with thirteen battalions and twenty squadrons, with orders to possess himself of the Isle of Newbourg, and afterwards to pass into the Upper Alsace. Marshal de Harcourt, whose army was but just sufficient to guard his lines, as soon as the body of troops he had posted at Agembach returned, sent some detachments into Upper Alsace, suspecting the Elector of Hanover's design, which yet he imagined impracticable, because to effect it his troops must pass under the cannon of Basil, that is through the territories of the Swiss; but, as soon as he had intelligence that Count Mercy was actually on his march, he sent orders to M. des Roseaux, who commanded in the Isle of Newbourg, to abandon it, though a very advantageous post, because, having no troops at hand to support him, he was afraid that gentleman should be surrounded. He sent likewise a detachment to join the Count du Bourg, who commanded in the Upper Alsace, with this compliment, That he left all things to his courage and conduct; but that at all events he would have him fight the German troops.

Count Mercy now advanced towards the Count du Bourg in order of battle. M. du Bourg conceiving it impossible

impoſſible to deal with the Imperialiſts, with all the advantages they had, and with all the diſadvantages he himſelf was under, contrived a method of fighting the Count du Mercy nearer an equality, which happened thus: he ſent three couriers one after another to the governor of Huningen, to deſire him to ſend a ſtrong detachment of horſe and foot to attack Count Mercy's bridge over the Rhine, while himſelf attacked him in his camp. M. du Bourg knew very well that the governor of Huningen had neither horſe nor foot to ſend; but he foreſaw that ſome of theſe couriers would fall into the hands of Count Mercy, and oblige him to ſend a detachment to ſecure his bridge, which accordingly happened. Count Mercy, after making this detachment, had ſtill a ſuperiority of two battalions, and therefore he advanced according to his former deſign to fight the French; his troops conſiſted of nine battalions and twenty ſquadrons; he diſpoſed the latter ten in each wing, and drew up his infantry in the centre. Count du Bourg diſpoſed his troops in the ſame manner, nine ſquadrons in each wing, ſix battalions in the centre, and another battalion behind, with his artillery. On the left of Count Mercy's army there was a hamlet called Homerſtadt. The Count du Bourg ſaw that his right wing might be terribly incommoded from thence; he therefore detached 200 men from the battalion that guarded his artillery to take poſſeſſion of it, which Count Mercy perceiving, ſent two battalions to prevent it. Count du Bourg ordered M. des Roſeaux, at the head of a regiment of dragoons, to go and ſupport them; he found the 200 men in poſſeſſion of the place, upon which he ordered his dragoons to diſmount, and before the German battalions could form made a terrible diſcharge on them, which diſordering them ſtill more, M. des Roſeaux cauſed his dragoons to mount and fall in upon them ſword in hand, under the fire of the foot. Count Mercy had ſuccoured them if M. du Bourg had not

in that inſtant attacked his right wing, which was alſo ill formed, and, failing at firſt into ſome confuſion, M. du Bourg cauſed all his artillery to be diſcharged thereon with cartridge-ſhot, and then, putting himſelf at the head of his infantry, directed them to follow him without firing a ſhot; they did ſo, and, having received the German fire, fell in upon them with their bayonets fixed to their muſkets, under the diſcharge of their own artillery, which, on the breaking of the German right wing, took their infantry in flank. This put an end to the buſineſs; for the Germans fled immediately towards their bridge. Thus ended the unfortunate action at Rumerſheim, 800 men being killed on the ſpot, 2000 taken priſoners, twelve colours, eight ſtandards, two kettle-drums, four pieces of cannon, twenty-two pontons, 500 waggons load of proviſions, the hoſtages they had taken in Upper Alſace, and all their baggage; but the great loſs of all was the papers of Count Mercy, whereby the French diſcovered the Duke of Savoy's deſign on Franche Comté, and a ſcheme he had laid for ſeizing of the citadel of Beſançon. Count Mercy himſelf at the head of 300 horſe, paſſed the bridge of boats he had thrown over the Rhine, and cauſed it to be broken afterwards. Count du Bourg ſent an expreſs with the news of this victory to the Marſhal d'Harcourt, that he might have the ſatisfaction of ſending a courier to court with the firſt advice thereof; but the marſhal, far from deſiring to deprive Monſ. du Bourg in any ſort either of the reward or glory of ſo great an action, refuſed to ſend any courier, and remitted it to M. du Bourg; who thereupon diſpatched Count Dandezy, to whom the king gave a commandery of St. Louis, with a penſion of 1000 crowns. He ſent M. du Bourg the ribband of the holy ghoſt, and rewarded, as his cuſtom was, all the other officers who had diſtinguiſhed themſelves in that action, beyond their hopes. Some ſhort time after the Marſhal d'Harcourt retook Hagembach,

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and afterwards encamped at Laukandel, in the very ſpot where the Germans had taken poſt before. He afterwards raiſed contributions in Baden, and in all the country about Landau. As for the German army, it was in no condition to undertake any thing; Veltmarſhal Count de Thungen, an old experienced officer, growing diſſatisfied with repeated diſappointments he had met with in the ſervice, fell ill ſuddenly of the gout in the ſtomach, which carried him off at a time when his preſence was very neceſſary. The Elector of Hanover returned in the latter end of October into his own dominions, much diſguſted with the treatment he had met with, and with the ſmall regard which had been paid to his repeated inſtances for juſt and reaſonable ſupplies. The command of the army fell then to the Count de la Tour, who had not much to do, the French army ſeparating ſoon afterwards, and retiring into winter-quarters.

At the opening of this year, King Charles found his dominions reduced within a very narrow compaſs, that is to ſay in Spain, where little more than half the principality of Catalonia remained to him, and only Gibraltar and Alicant in all that large kingdom; beſides, Gibraltar ſtill remained in the hands of the Engliſh, and Alicant was then cloſely beſieged by the Chevalier d'Asfelt, at the head of 12,000 men. This city and port is commanded by a ſtrong caſtle, erected on a rock, at a ſmall diſtance from the ſea. It was garriſoned by only two regiments, and Major-general Richards was governor. The city held out for a conſiderable time againſt a large train of heavy artillery, which was well ſerved, but at length the garriſon was compelled to retire into the caſtle, which had been deemed impregnable, until the bravery of Engliſh ſailors maſtered it in the year 1706. Here they ſunk three ciſterns, and then, with incredible labour, filled them with water. The French carried on the ſiege with vigour, but found it impoſſible to make any impreſſion on a place which

both art and nature had joined in ſecuring. Still however determined not to relinquiſh their deſign, they reſolved to attempt mining through the ſolid rock, in order at once to blow up the caſtle and its garriſon into the air. The beſieged were not at all alarmed at this undertaking, which they conſidered as utterly impracticable. It even ſupplied them with freſh hopes, as they believed it would retard the operations of the ſiege until a Britiſh fleet ſhould arrive to their ſuccour. Encouraged by theſe proſpects, they beſtirred themſelves in annoying the workmen, and retarding their progreſs. The beſiegers however wrought inceſſantly, and procured a number of peaſants to aſſiſt in the labour. In three months ſuch a fiſſure was made in the rock as their moſt experienced engineers pronounced equal to the tremenduous purpoſe for which it had been hewn: 1500 barrels of powder were depoſited therein, together with beams, iron bars and crows, which, by ſtopping the expanſion of the powder when fired, might render the concuſſion more violent. On the 20th of March the garriſon was ſummoned to ſurrender, and the moſt ſolemn aſſurances given them of being ſafely eſcorted to Barcelona, and their baggage and effects ſecured to them, if they ſurrendered in three days; the ruin that awaited them in caſe of an obſtinate rejection of the honourable terms propoſed was likewiſe repreſented in all its force. To convince them of the reality of their danger, the French general offered a ſafe conduct for ſome ſkilful perſons who ſhould be permitted the inſpect the mine, and might make a faithful report of what would be the conſequence of ſpringing it. Two field-officers accepted this permiſſion; and, after they had fully inſpected this repoſitory of deſolation, they reported to the governor, that in their opinion the exploſion would carry away the whole caſtle to the eaſtermoſt battery, unleſs it took vent through a mine which they themſelves had dug, purpoſely to divert the force of this. The leaſt miſchief

chief that it was likely to produce, would be to carry away the ſea battery, the lodging rooms in the caſtle-cloſe, ſome of the chambers cut for ſoldiers barracks; and the great ciſtern would be much affected.

A general council of war was called, to deliberate on the proper ſtep to be taken at this criſis of their fate; but they obſtinately reſolved to commit themſelves to Providence, and defend the place. This reſolution was communicated to the French commander, who two nights after again ſent a flag, and endeavoured to divert them from their deſperate purpoſe, offering the ſame honourable terms of capitulation as had been before tendered: but all in vain. The third night approached, when the French ſent their third and laſt ſummons, and with it an aſſurance, that their mine was primed, and ſhould be ſprung by ſix o'clock the next morning. They remonſtrated againſt the fatal obſtinacy which cauſed them wilfully to ſeek their own deſtruction; ſtill offering them the former terms of ſurrender: but nothing could ſhake the ſteady purpoſe of theſe determined men. At five o'clock the next morning, as a prelude to this direful ſtroke, all the inhabitants of that quarter were ordered to quit their habitations. The beſieged during the night had kept a general guard, and employed the time in religious exerciſes. Major-general Richards, Colonel Sibourg, and Lieutenant-colonel Thornicroft of Sir Charles Hotham's regiment, ſat together in the governor's uſual lodging room; other officers cantoned themſelves as their tempers inclined, to paſs the dreary and preſaging night.

At length, day appearing, the inhabitants were ſeen flying in crouds to the weſtermoſt part of the town. The governor, attended by the principal officers, went to the weſt battery, to gain fuller information. After he had remained there about a quarter of an hour, Lieutenant-colonel Thornicroft deſired him to remove, as being unable to do any ſervice there; he and Colonel

Sibourg both anſwered, that no danger was to be apprehended there, more than in any other place; and that there they would wait the event. The lieutenant-colonel, reſolving to ſhare the fate of his ſuperiors, continued there, as did other officers from the ſame motive: but, the hour of five being now conſiderably paſt, the corporal's guard cried out, that the train was fired, obſerving ſome ſmoke from the lighted matches, and other combuſtible matter near it, from whence the ſame aſcended to the centinels above. The governor and field officers were then urged to retreat, but refuſed. The mine at laſt blew up; the rock opened and ſhut; the whole mountain felt the convulſion; the governor and field officers, with their company, ten guns, and two mortars, were buried in the abyſs; the walls of the caſtle ſhook, part of the great ciſtern fell, another ciſtern almoſt cloſed, and the rock ſhut a man to his neck in its clift, who lived many hours in that agoniſing poſture. About thirty-ſix centinels, and women, were ſwallowed up in different quarters, whoſe dying groans were heard, ſome of them four days after the melancholy cataſtrophe. Many houſes of the town were overwhelmed in their ruins, and the caſtle ſuffered greatly; but was ſaved from total deſtruction by the vent which the exploſion forced through the veins of the rock. This Major-general Richards, though an Engliſhman, was an officer in the King of Spain's (Charles's) ſervice, and of the Romiſh religion; there periſhed, beſides the officers already mentioned, five captains, three lieutenants, forty-two ſoldiers, all the miners, and about thirty peaſants. Asfelt was a Frenchman in King Philip's ſervice.

After the loſs of Major-general Richards, the command devolved on Lieutenant-colonel Dalbeune, of Sibourg's regiment, who drew out a detachment of the whole garriſon, and with it made a deſperate ſally, to ſhew that they were not appalled by this convulſive ſhock. The bombs from the caſtle played on the town

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more violently, and the ſhot galled every corner of their ſtreets; yet ſtill the caſtle remained as defenſible as before, ſo that this vigorous defence was maintained till the arrival of the Britiſh fleet, a month afterwards, under the command of Sir George Byng; his ſhips were, the Defiance, Northumberland, Eſſex, York, and Dunkirk. The laſt went within the line in three and a half fathom, as drawing leſs water than the other; then, laying her broadſide to the eaſt part of the town, began to cannonade a battery of four guns, and two others raiſed under the hill, each mounted with two guns, and from the mole-head a forty-two pounder; but the wind being freſh, and a great ſwell rolling in from the eaſtward, the large ſhips were obliged to weigh their anchors, and get out of cannon-ſhot. The Dunkirk, having much of her rigging damaged, and her ſmall bower cut, lay expoſed for ſome time to the ſhot, bombs, and carcaſſes, of the enemy; but at length ſhe got off. The weather continuing very bad, and General Stanhope, who was on-board the fleet, finding the enemy increaſe conſiderably in ſtrength, and ſuppoſing the garriſon by this time to be driven to great extremities, ſent a flag of truce to Chevalier d'Aſfelt the Spaniſh commander, with propoſals for ſurrendering the caſtle, which were agreed to, and the garriſon, marching out with the honours of war, embarked on-board the fleet. No troops ever diſplayed a more inflexible firmneſs, and, although the event was fatal to the principal officers, yet the garriſon in general, after enduring all theſe perils, inſtead of ſurrendering priſoners of war, only evacuated the place. M. d'Aſfelt, beſides thirty-three pieces of cannon, found therein 50,000 pounds of powder, 8000 bullets, 530 bombs, 1000 grenades, 80 iron hand-mills, with abundance of other things. The conqueſt therefore of Alicant was of mighty importance; for now there were but four garriſons in the hands of King Charles

Charles and his allies, viz. Gironne, Barcelona, Terrogona and Gibraltar.

From the commencement of the war to this time the forces on this ſide were generally ſpeaking compoſed rather of the militia than regular troops; but it ſo happened this year that both the Portugueſe army under the command of the Earl of Galway, and the army of King Philip under the Marquis de Bay, were in excellent order. That of the Earl of Galway conſiſted of twenty-ſix battalions of Portugueſe and ſix battalions of Engliſh foot, and of thirteen regiments of horſe; he had with him a train of twenty pieces of cannon, and threatened to make the ſiege of Badajox in the very beginning of the campaign. The Earl of Galway, having marched as far as the Caya in his way to Bajadox, found there the army of Spain encamped and ready to engage; he cauſed however bridges to be immediately thrown over the river, but made no farther motion afterwards for ſome days. On the 7th of May the Spaniſh army made a forage, upon which the Earl of Galway reſolved to attack them, expecting to have found them in great diſorder; but this was a ſtratagem of the Marquis de Bay, who, foreſeeing what would happen, marched with his infantry drawn up in two lines, and his cannon loaded with cartridge-ſhot. The horſe too had their orders, inſtead of foraging, to return to their poſts by eleven in the morning. The battle was of but very ſhort continuance, the Spaniſh horſe being much ſuperior to that of the Portugueſe, ſo that in leſs than half an hour the left wing was broken, and three battalions of Engliſh troops, with ſome pieces of cannon which had been placed behind them, were entirely cut off from the reſt of the army. It unluckily happened, that the Earl of Galway was there in perſon, and was forced to retire into Higuela to ſave himſelf. The infantry, finding the buſineſs over, drew themſelves up in a ſquare battalion, and retired. M. de Bay haraſſed them with his horſe

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in their march; but however they paſſed the river Guadiana, which was now dry, and were ſoon out of reach. There was about 1700 men killed and wounded, and about 2500 taken priſoners. The Spaniards loſt only 400 men. The Earl of Galway retired with the broken remains of his army under the cannon of Elvas, and took ſuch precautions in a few days afterwards as hindered the Spaniards from making any other uſe of their victory than blocking up Olivença; ſo that on the coming on of the heats they retired into quarters of refreſhment. In order to reſtore the army to its former condition, ſix new regiments were raiſed in the pay of the Queen of Great Britain. The firſt was given to the Earl of Galway, the King of Portugal named the other five colonels, and the queen the lieutenant-colonels. Thus ended the campaign on this ſide.

The operations at ſea were not ſuſpended by the negotiation carrying on at the Hague. In the month of November 1708, her majeſty had conferred the poſt of rear-admiral of Great-Britain (which had been vacant ever ſince the death of Sir Cloudeſley Shovel) on Sir John Leake, and at the ſame time paid him this ſignal compliment, "that ſhe was put in mind of it by the voice of her people." Early in the ſpring of 1709 Lord Durſley was at ſea with a ſquadron which cruiſed in the channel, and picked up ſeveral French prizes. His lordſhip, when he had only four ſhips of the line with him, viz. the Kent, Plymouth, Monk, and Litchfield, fell in with M. du Guai Trouin's ſquadron, conſiſting of eleven men-of-war, twelve leagues ſouth-weſt of Scilly. It being then three o'clock in the morning, and their lights being ſeen, his lordſhip made the ſignal for wearing, which was obeyed, and the whole ſquadron, the weather being dark, got clear of the enemy. On the 2d of March (eight days after this), Captain Tollet, in the Aſſurance of 70 guns, with the Hampſhire and Aſſiſtance of 50 guns each, having the trade from Kinſale to the port of London

London under convoy, came up with four ſail of this fleet, about eight leagues ſouth-ſouth-weſt of the Lizard. The French commodore in a ſhip of 70 guns ranged along the larboard ſide of the Aſſurance, when the two ſhips engaged yard-arm and yard-arm for the ſpace of half an hour; in which time the ſmall ſhot from the French did great execution among the ſailors and marines that were quartered on deck. The Aſſurance on her part fired her upper and part of her lower deck guns ſo effectually, that ſhe obliged the enemy to ſheer off; the other three ſhips, which were of 40 or 50 guns, then paſſed the Aſſurance, firing ſeveral broadſides into her, after which they bore away to join their commodore. The Aſſurance, having thus ſuſtained all the weight of the action, was reduced to a very ſhattered condition, both in her rigging and hull, to repair which as far as poſſible the utmoſt diſpatch was uſed, and the three ſhips bore down to defend the merchantmen. On their approach the French ſhips bore away, but not before they had picked up five of the merchantmen. Captain Tollet had been four months ſick, but, when the French ſhips appeared, was put in a chair, and carried upon deck, and received a wound in the action; his firſt lieutenant was ſhot in the leg, which wound he got dreſſed, and immediately returned upon deck; the ſecond lieutenant was killed, together with twenty-five common men, and fifty-three wounded, ſome of whom afterwards died. The Hampſhire had only two killed and eleven wounded; the Aſſiſtance eight killed and twenty-one wounded, among whom was Captain Tudor her commander, who died of his wounds. The French ſuffered ſeverely, although their exact loſs cannot be aſcertained. Lord Durſley ſhortly after eſcorted the Liſbon fleet of merchantmen out of the channel, which he had no ſooner parted with than he diſcovered the Achilles, the ſhip which M. Trouin was on board, with the Glory, which had the day before taken the Briſtol man-of-war of 50 guns.

guns. His lordſhip immediately gave them chace, recovered the Briſtol, which, by a ſhot in her bread-room, ſunk ſoon afterwards; but all the men, except twenty, were ſaved. The Achilles, much ſhattered, eſcaped by her ſailing, but the Le Glorieux, a French man-of-war of 44 guns and 312 men, was taken; his lordſhip having about ſeventy men killed and wounded in the action. On the 26th of April two ſmall ſhips were taken, and on the 7th of May a privateer, carrying 14 guns and 100 men; but, the proviſions through all the ſhips then growing very ſhort, his lordſhip found it neceſſary to return to Plymouth on the 13th with his ſquadron, which then conſiſted of one-third and ſeven fourth rates, and there received the unwelcome news, that her majeſty's ſhip the Sweepſtakes, of 32 guns, had been taken by two French privateers, each of which was of greater force than that frigate.

On the 18th of May an engagement happened which did great honour to Engliſh valour and conduct. Capt. Walter Riddel, in the Falmouth, a 50-gun ſhip, in convoying ſome New-England ſhips laden with maſts, was attacked twenty-four leagues off Scilly, by four French men-of-war, the largeſt of which, a 60-gun ſhip, attempted to board him, which Captain Riddel anticipated by filling his head-ſails, and laying her on-board, under her bowſprit, directly athwart-hauſe, in which ſituation he raked her fore and aft with his cannon. The two ſhips continued in this poſition an hour and an half, during which time many of the Falmouth's crew boarded the Frenchman, but they were bravely repulſed, that ſhip having a much greater number of hands on-board. The French commodore at length grew tired of this cloſe conteſt, and after having endeavoured to deſtroy the Falmouth's ſails and rigging, diſengaged herſelf, and made after the merchantmen. Captain Riddel however made ſhift to follow him with ſuch expedition, as ſecured the whole fleet, which he

brought safe into Plymouth. In this action the Falmouth had thirteen men killed, and fifty-six wounded. The captain himself received a wound in the right leg, and had several other hurts; his second lieutenant, and a volunteer named Lawson, were shot through the body. The Falmouth had 20,000l. New-England money on-board her at the time of the engagement.

Nothing of any importance happened in the Mediterranean this summer. Sir George Byng, after his fruitless attempt to relieve Alicant, looked into Toulon, where he saw eight ships rigging, and one large man-of-war on the careen, the rest being laid up.---The incapacity and misconduct of Charles III. while it ruined his affairs in Spain, spread a languor over the operations of this fleet. Sir George therefore resolved to return to England, where he arrived on the 25th of September, leaving Sir Edward Whitaker with a pretty strong squadron in the Mediterranean. That commander, in the bay of Roses, fell in with the grand convoy intended for the French service in the Lamperdan, which consisted of forty large vessels laden with corn and other provisions, of which he took thirty, and hindered the rest from putting to sea; by which the enemy was greatly distressed, and King Charles's army so happily supplied with provisions as to be able to keep the field, which they otherwise could not have done. Some Dutch writers state, that Admiral Whitaker, with fifteen men of war, entered the bay of Roses, and destroyed fifty of the French ships laden with corn: they add, that the admiral would have assisted his catholic majesty in reducing Roses, which would have left the enemy without a seaport in Catalonia; but his advice was not followed, which was much to the prejudice of King Charles's affairs.

In his return from Mediterranean, Sir Geo. Byng procured an exact account of the strength, station, and designs, of M. du Guay Trouin, and sent an ac-

count of it to the lord high admiral, who immediately forwarded it to Lord Durſley, who was juſt returned from a cruiſe. His lordſhip was inſtructed to annoy the enemy as much as poſſible, and to be particularly careful in protecting the homeward-bound Weſt-India fleet, which Trouin lay in wait for. On the 8th of October his lordſhip ſailed from Plymouth, with one third rate, and two fourths, having before detached Captain Vincent with ſix ſhips to ſecure the Weſt-India fleet; and ſoon after, his lordſhip joined that detachment, and thereby prevented the French from ſucceeding in their deſign. Three weeks after, his lordſhip fell in with the Barbadoes fleet, and, havingly ſufficiently ſtrengthened their convoy, detached two frigates for intelligence into the road of Breſt, that he might be the better enabled to undertake farther ſervice. While his lordſhip was thus employed, Captain Hughes, in the Wincheſter, happened to chaſe a ſhip which proved to be a Dutch privateer, whoſe commander was required to ſtrike his flag, but, inſtead of paying that eſtabliſhed reſpect to the flag of England, he fired both great and ſmall ſhot into the Wincheſter; but, being anſwered in the ſame manner, after an obſtinate diſpute (though it was known the Wincheſter was an Engliſh ſhip of war) the commanding officer was killed, and between thirty and forty of the Dutch ſeamen.

In June this year, the Fowey frigate, of 32 guns, fell in with two French ſhips of equal force in the Mediterranean, to whom ſhe was obliged to ſtrike. On the 23d of September, Captain Hanway, in the Plymouth of 60 guns, brought in the l'Adriad, a French man-of-war, mounting 40 guns, and 260 men. Captain Hanway had no more hands on-board his ſhip capable of doing duty, than were able to work as many guns as the enemy mounted. The French commander, the Sieur Jacques Caſhard, with fourteen officers and ſeamen, were killed in the engagement. The

Weſt-India fleet, the latter end of October, arriving within 150 leagues of the Lizard, under convoy of five men-of-war, was overtaken by a violent ſtorm, which diſperſed and ſhattered the ſhips. The Hampſhire and the Glouceſter, two of the convoy, were afterwards met by M. du Guay Trouin's ſquadron, and, although the force was extremely unequal, the Engliſh men-of-war made a brave defence, by which means the merchantmen eſcaped. At length, after a fight which laſted ſeven hours, the Glouceſter, a 60-gun ſhip, and juſt rebuilt, was forced to ſtrike, but the Hampſhire beat the enemy off, and got ſafe into port, in a very ſhattered condition. On Chriſtmas day, the Solebay man-of-war, with eight merchant-ſhips under her convoy, bound to Lynn in Norfolk, were unfortunately caſt away upon Boſtonknock, and the crew of all the ſhips periſhed, except two boats full which got ſafe on-ſhore.

The events in the Weſt-Indies are all the tranſactions in the year 1709 which remain to be ſpoken of.

Admiral Wager appointed Captain Hutchins, in the Portland, to cruiſe near Porto Bello. On the 3d of May he fell in with two French ſhips of 50 guns each, the Coventry which had been taken from the Engliſh, and the Minion. Captain Hutchins engaged theſe ſhips two days; and, having killed the firſt captain and wounded the ſecond on-board the Coventry, made a great ſlaughter among her men, and brought her main-maſt by the board, ſhe ſtruck. On-board his own ſhip only nine were killed and twelve wounded. On-board this prize were 20,000 pieces of eight. The Minion her conſort eſcaped, but, having ſuffered much in the firſt engagement, ſhe was ſuppoſed to have ſent off much of her cargo on-board the Coventry. The Portland afterwards, in convoying a fleet of merchantmen through the windward paſſage, took a French ſhip near Cape St. Nicholas worth about 6000l. Captain Vernon, alſo, of the Jerſey, took a Spaniſh ſloop loaden

loaden with tobacco, and retook, from two French ſloops, a Guinea ſhip with 400 negroes. Captain Hardy, of the Roebuck, brought in a brigantine, partly laden with indigo, taken in at Petit Guaves, which he met on the north-ſide of Hiſpaniola, as ſhe was going from thence to Port de Paix.

In the autumn, the rear-admiral was ordered home: whereupon he left Captain Tudor Trevor in command of the men-of-war ſtationed at Jamaica. On his arrival in England he was received with great cordiality, the advices from the Weſt-Indies expreſſing full ſatisfaction in the honour and vigilance of this gallant officer. As it was a very uncommon caſe for Weſt-India planters and merchants to be ſatisfied with the commander ſtationed among them, their manner of expreſſing themſelves concerning Rear-admiral Wager, was the more acceptable to the admiralty; and, ſays Dr. Campbell, "clearly confutes a maxim held at a certain board, that it is impoſſible to ſatisfy the merchants at home, or the planters abroad."

The Earl of Pembroke, finding the office of lord high-admiral too arduous an employment for a mind engaged in the purſuit of ſcience, and the ſtudy of antiquity, reſolved to reſign the dignity to which he had ſo lately been reſtored, notwithſtanding he had diſcharged the duties of that office to the general ſatisfaction of all parties. His lordſhip had refuſed a penſion of 3000l. a year, when he quitted the admiralty department to make way for Prince George of Denmark, at the acceſſion of Queen Anne, but it was now beſtowed upon him. The queen hereupon made an offer of this poſt to the Earl of Orford, who had for ten years been diſengaged from public buſineſs. That nobleman declined the office of lord high-admiral, but was was willing to accept a ſhare in the direction of the admiralty. Her majeſty therefore, in the beginning of the month of November, iſſued a commiſſion, whereby ſhe appointed Edward earl of Orford, Sir John

John Leake, Sir George Byng, George Dodington, and Paul Methuen, Eſqrs. commiſſioners for executing the office of lord high-admiral of Great Britain and Ireland.

On the 15th of November, the parliament met at Weſtminſter. The queen, who, on account of the death of the prince her huſband, had not gone to the houſe in the preceding ſeſſion, opened the preſent in perſon. In her ſpeech ſhe inveighed againſt the ſuppoſed duplicity of France; ſpoke of the principal events of the year, and aſked for freſh ſupplies to maintain the war. Upwards of 6,000,000l. were granted; towards raiſing of which, 1,500,000l. was provided by means of a lottery. Theſe immenſe parliamentary grants aſtoniſhed the French nation; for, while their credit was entirely gone, ours was in its zenith. Hereupon Dr. Campbell makes the following judicious remark: "Without queſtion, if ever our credit ſhould fail, either in reſpect to money or the reputation of our government, the French will gain as great an aſcendency over us as we then had over them."

Thus far public meaſures were conducted ſmoothly, and no violent party-heats impeded that ſyſtem of foreign politics, which had been adopted through the war. But, as the moſt important events are frequently produced by the moſt contemptible agents, ſo at this time a man ſtarted up to diſturb the public peace, who by being quite deſtitute of talents, and a bigot to principles that were irrational and indefenſible, was led to ſtrike into the paths of politics, which many a dull man beſides him has choſen without being ſo fortunate as to acquire his celebrity. On the 5th of November, a day commemorated as the anniverſary of the diſcovery of the popiſh plot, and the landing of King William, Dr. Sacheverel preached a furious ſermon againſt the Whigs, before the lord-mayor at St. Paul's, which he printed under the title of "The Perils of Falſe Brethren,

thren, both in Church and State." In this ſermon he ſtrenuouſly aſſerted the high-church notions of hereditary right, paſſive obedience, and non-reſiſtance; gave an odious turn to the revolution, the proteſtant ſucceſſion, the union, and the toleration granted to diſſenters; recommended the perſecution of them, and inſinuated that the church was in danger. It is impoſſible to expreſs the ferment this raiſed in the nation. He was impeached by the commons at the bar of the upper houſe, and a day appointed for trying him before the lords at Weſtminſter-hall. Meanwhile the Tories, who all approved his principles, were as violent in his defence as the parliament in his proſecution. The eyes of the whole kingdom were turned upon this extraordinary trial, and the queen was every day preſent as a private ſpectator. This trial laſted ſeveral days, and vaſt multitudes conſtantly attended him as he went to the hall, and abuſed all that would not pull off their hats to him, and cry out for the church. They proceeded ſo far as to demoliſh ſeveral meeting-houſes, and to make bonfires of the materials, with loud huzzas of "High Church and Sacheverel." The queen herſelf favoured his cauſe, as it contributed to the extenſion of her prerogative. On the 10th of March 1710, he was found guilty by the lords, and ſentenced not to preach for three years, and his ſermon to be burned by the common hangman. The lenity of this ſentence was conſidered by the Tories as a victory. Indeed, if Harley and his confederates were not at the bottom of this affair, they certainly made their advantage of it: for, by their thus artfully applying to the queen's paſſion for the church, ſhe ſoon became the eaſy property of the Tories, or rather of thoſe who wanted to rule by their means.

While the proceedings againſt Sacheverel engroſſed the attention of the nation, the French king continued to ſolicit peace, and a freſh negotiation was opened at at Gertruydenberg. He offered to acknowledge the archduke

archduke as King of Spain, to give no assistance to his grandson, but to leave him entirely to his own fortune; to give four cautionary towns, to deliver up Strasburg and Brisac, to renounce the sovereignty of Alsace, and only to keep the government thereof; to demolish all the forts between Bale and Philipsburg; to fill up the harbour of Dunkirk, and entirely erase the fortifications of that place, which had been formidable for a a considerable time; to give up to the States general Tournay, Ypres, Menin, Furnes, Condé, and Maubeuge. The emperor and the Queen of Great Britain left the Dutch to negotiate as they should think proper. Buys and Vander Dussel, two burgomasters, were deputed by the states. These republicans assumed all the dignity of conquerors, and treated the ministers of one of the most haughty monarchs with all that loftiness and contempt, with which the Dutch had been treated in the year 1672. The Dutch, now aimed at becoming lords of the seventeen provinces of the Low Countries, and to have ruled in Liege and Cologne. Thus it was they intended to aggrandize themselves even on the ruin of their allies. The French plenipotentiaries even went so far as to promise that the king their master should contribute money to dethrone his grandson Philip V. The Dutch negotiators, not content with that, insisted, as one of the preliminaries, that Louis should engage to furnish an army for the purpose of establishing Charles III. on the throne of Spain. These conferences proved as ineffectual as the former; and France began to see with pleasure the ferment which prevailed in Great Britain, and already formed hopes that a deliverance from the ruin which threatened her would be brought about by those violent civil dissentions which debilitated her rival.

The preparations made by the allies for the campaign of 1710 were vigorous beyond example. The English and Dutch had several thousand more men in Flanders than the year before, and the officers had

strict

ſtrict orders to join their reſpective corps by the end of March. The Duke of Marlborough arrived very early at the Hague, and took all imaginable care that things ſhould be in order by the time Prince Eugene arrived. His highneſs came to the Hague on the 12th of April, and, every thing being properly diſpoſed, he found it unneceſſary for him to wait there longer than two days; ſo that the 15th was fixed for his and the Duke of Marlborough's departure for the army.

The day before, the Earl of Albemarle, governor of Tournay, in concert with Lieutenant-general Cadogan, cauſed an attack to be made on the caſtle of Mortaigne, ſeated at the conflux of the Schelde and Scarpe. The French garriſon, which conſiſted of about ſixty men, made ſome reſiſtance, but was quickly obliged to ſurrender priſoners of war; but the next morning the French, by the help of ſome armed barks from Condé, and a numerous detachment of infantry, retook it; but the Earl of Albemarle, being very ſenſible of the importance of the place, on the 16th of April cauſed it to be attacked a ſecond time, and after ſome time, and with ſmall loſs, obliged the French garriſon to ſurrender priſoners of war; and, to make ſure of the poſt, left there 200 men and four pieces of cannon. This was the firſt action of this campaign, and was of ſome importance to the allies, as well as a good omen of their fortune during the reſt of the campaign.

The French were by no means in a condition to open the campaign as early; they had fatigued themſelves all the winter in caſting up lines, erecting redoubts, in taking every precaution neceſſary to ſecure them againſt the attacks of an enemy to whom no ordinary fortifications could ſet bounds. The newly-promoted Marſhal Monteſquieu commanded in chief; he diſtributed his troops in the beſt manner he could. The Chevalier de Luxemburg was encamped near St.

Amand, the marſhal himſelf with thirty battalions and ſixty ſquadrons in the neighbourhood of Lens; nor was it at all doubted but that the forcing of theſe lines would have cauſed great effuſion of blood.

Prince Eugene and the Duke of Marlborough arrived on the 17th of May at Tournay, where the ſame day they held a conference with Count Tilly and M. Clairbergen one of the field-deputies of the States, as to the opening of the campaign. In theſe conferences it was reſolved, though that reſolution was kept very ſecret, to attack the French lines. In order to this, the army marched on the 20th at five in the afternoon, in two columns; the right, commanded by the Duke of Marlborough, to Pont à Vendin, and the left, under Prince Eugene, to Pont Oby, on the Deule. This march was continued all night, and was ſo well regulated, that by ſix next morning the Prince of Wirtemberg and General Cadogan, with a detachment of fifteen battalions and fifty ſquadrons from the Duke of Marlborough's column, entered the lines without oppoſition; nay, the French were ſo careleſs, that the greateſt part of their baggage fell into the hands of this detachment. The whole confederate army immediately paſſed the lines and marched towards Lens, from whence the enemy decamped in confuſion, and retired behind the Scarp, where they took ſuch precautions as ſeemed to ſhew at leaſt ſome inclination for fighting. The Chevalier de Luxembourg with the horſe joined the forces under the command of the Marſhal de Monteſquieu; but, upon the arrival of the allies in ſight of them, they retired again in great confuſion towards Cambray, the Prince of Heſſe Caſſel purſuing them and making ſome priſoners in the rear. The Duke of Marlborough paſſed the Scarpe that night, and the troops under Prince Eugene marched on the other ſide of the river, in order to inveſt Doway, which was accordingly done, while the French generals were ſquabbling amongſt themſelves; the new-made

new-made marſhal rating the Chevalier de Luxemburg for not joining him, according to his orders; the chevalier retorting on him the ſcandal of being ſurprized, notwithſtanding his giving him previous advice of the march of the allies.

Before we proceed to the ſubſequent tranſactions of this campaign, it is fit to ſay ſomething of the ſtrength of the confederate army, which was certainly ſuch as might well terrify an enemy much exhauſted and always beaten. The right wing, commanded by Prince Eugene, conſiſted of forty-five battalions and 110 ſquadrons; the left, under the Duke of Marlborough, of 101 battalions and 161 ſquadrons; they had 102 field-pieces, twenty mortars, and forty pontons. As to the French army, it is difficult to give any account of it, ſince as yet it was not aſſembled, but towards the end of the campaign it was ſaid to conſiſt of 200 battalions and 300 ſquadrons. At this time, undoubtedly, it was very indifferently conducted, otherwiſe thoſe lines, which coſt ſo much time and treaſure, might have been defended, or at leaſt ſold dear; whereas, the very ſight of the allies frighted away their guards, and left the prince and duke at liberty to purſue at leiſure the ſcheme they had formed of beſieging one of the principal places in French Flanders.

Doway is a very great city, five leagues diſtant from Cambray, a place of prodigious conſequence in reſpect of its ſituation on the borders of Hainault and Artois, as well as very conſiderable from the fair kept there in the month of September, and its woollen manufactures. It was taken from the Spaniards by Louis XIV. in 1667, yielded to him the next year by the treaty of Aix la Chapelle, and his title confirmed by the ſubſequent treaties of Nimeguen and Ryſwick: its fortifications, though irregular, coſt ſeveral millions of livres, and his moſt chriſtian majeſty, at a ſmall diſtance from it, had erected fort Scarpe, which was both regular and ſtrong. At this time M. Albergotti, a lieutenant-

general, commanded in the place, having under him ſeveral officers of diſtinction, with a garriſon of 8000 men.

Whilſt the allies were buſy inveſting this place, a detachment from the enemy's garriſon in Namur ſeized a bark coming down the Schelde, having on-board a great part of Prince Eugene's baggage, particularly his ſilver-plate, 2000 ducats in gold, and a ſword ſet with diamonds preſented him by the King of Pruſſia, valued at 20,000 crowns; all which, by expreſs orders from the French king, were returned to his highneſs.--By the 1ſt of May the place was thoroughly inveſted. Prince Eugene took up his quarters in a caſtle between Flines and the fort of Scarpe. The Duke of Marlborough, with the army of obſervation had his right over-againſt Vitry, his centre at Torqueſne, and his left extended towards Arleux. Two attacks were formed before the place: the one under the command of Prince Anhault Deſſau, general of foot, who had under him two lieutenant-generals and four major-generals; the other under the Prince of Orange, who was alſo general of foot, and had under him likewiſe a like number of general officers. The trenches were opened in the night between the fourth and fifth at both attacks. The rector of the Engliſh college at Doway and his ſcholars, to the number of ſixty, were, by order of the Duke of Marlborough, conducted ſafe to Liſle. On the 7th of May the beſieged made a vigorous ſally with 1000 foot and 200 dragoons. They levelled part of the trenches, cut the greateſt part of Sutton's regiment to pieces, took the lieutenant-colonel Gledhill priſoner, and left the major and ſeventeen commiſſioned officers dead upon the ſpot. They likewiſe diſordered a Swiſs regiment, killed four captains and a conſiderable number of private men, but were at laſt repulſed with conſiderable loſs by General Macartney. On the 8th, the artillery, conſiſting of 200 pieces of cannon, arrived in the camp; of theſe no leſs

than

than fourſcore carried balls of twenty-four pounds. On the ſame day the beſiegers worked hard upon their batteries: in the evening ſeveral hundred waggon-loads of ammunition arrived in the camp, and all imaginable care was taken for carrying on the ſiege with vigour.

The court of France thought it now high time for their army to aſſemble, ſo that Marſhal Monteſquieu had orders to draw the troops together with all the expedition imaginable; and, by the middle of May, Marſhal Villars arrived, and took the command of an army of 153 battalions and 262 ſquadrons. He had with him the Chevalier de St. George and Marſhal Berwick, that the troops might be encouraged by their preſence. Villars preſently paſſed the Schelde and the Lower Scarpe, and threatened ſo loudly to attack the allies in their poſts, that the Duke of Marlborough gave orders to mark a line of battle in the adjoining plain, that on the firſt notice of their approach his troops might be ready to receive them.

On the 14th, about ſix in the morning, the batteries being completed, and eighty-eight pieces of cannon and thirty-two mortars being ready to play, they fired with prodigious fury on the town. On the 20th the beſiegers made themſelves maſters, and took poſt on part of the glacis, but were driven from thence by two ſallies. In the night of the 21ſt, M. d'Albergotti drove the beſiegers from a poſt they had taken on the left; but the Prince of Orange attacked it again about noon, and made himſelf maſter of it, notwithſtanding the prodigious fire from the town. In the night between the 23d and 24th, M. Albergotti made another ſally, in which he did a good deal of miſchief, but was at laſt repulſed with loſs. On the 25th he made four ſallies, ſprung a mine, and cauſed new ones to be ſunk under the poſts in moſt danger. The Prince of Anhalt was this day ſlightly wounded.

On the 20th of May Prince Eugene and the Duke of

of Marlborough detached a very great body of horſe towards Arras, that they might have an exact account of the ſituation of the country, in caſe Villars ſhould actually hazard a battle. On the 22d Prince d'Auvergne advanced with twenty-five ſquadrons nearer Arras, to favour the eſcape of the Cardinal de Bouillon his uncle, who was fallen into diſgrace on the diſcovery of ſome intrigues of his with the allies. On the return of theſe troops, Prince Eugene and the Duke of Marlborough made all the neceſſary diſpoſitions for a battle, and it was reſolved in a council of war, that Prince Eugene ſhould command the right at the head of the Imperial troops, the Duke of Marlborough the left with the Britiſh forces and thoſe in the pay of Great Britain, and Count Tilly at the head of the troops of the States, and in the pay of the States, in the centre.

On the 30th of May the army of France marched in twelve columns, having powder, ball, and bread, diſtributed among them for four days. The Marſhals Villars and Monteſquieu were in the centre, Marſhal Berwick in the right, and Marſhal d'Arco in the left. They advanced into the plain of Lens in order of battle, and approached within muſket-ſhot of the army of the allies. Marſhal Villars, with moſt of the general officers and a great body of horſe, came and reconnoitred the camp of the confederates, after which they held a council of war, in which it was unanimouſly reſolved that it was impoſſible to attack ſo numerous an army in ſo good a camp, upon which, after four days ſtay in the neighbourhood of the allies, the French marched back to Arras, and, all thoughts of fighting being laid aſide, Marſhal Berwick ſet out for Dauphiné to take upon him the command of the army there.--Prince Eugene and the Duke of Marlborough, perceiving that nothing more was intended than to alarm them and diſturb the ſiege, ſent back the troops that had been withdrawn from thence, and contented

themſelves with taking the neceſſary precautions not to be ſurpriſed, without fatiguing the troops under arms.

In the mean time the ſiege of Doway was carried on with great vigour, and defended with no leſs obſtinacy. M. Albergotti did not ſuffer a night to paſs without making ſallies, ſometimes with conſiderable ſucceſs, and at other times with very conſiderable loſs, particularly on the night of the 25th of May, he had 100 men and 25 officers killed upon the ſpot; this did not hinder him however on the laſt day of that month from making another ſally, in which he burnt the villages of Derchy, Sains, Nazieres, Fieren, and Pont à Rache, took General Fagel's baggage, and a great quantity of cattle, with which they returned into the town. From fort Scarpe there were likewiſe ſeveral ſallies made, which did a great deal of miſchief.

On the 17th the Duke of Marlborough went with Count Tilly to the poſt of Bioche, in the neighbourhood of Vitry, on which his grace had good reaſon to doubt the French had ſome deſign; he therefore reinforced it with eighty men, and at the ſame time directed the commanding officer to defend himſelf to the laſt extremity, aſſuring him that he ſhould be ſupported in time; however, about nine at night, on the firſt approach of the enemy, he ſurrendered himſelf, two captains, two lieutenants, two enſigns, and 150 men, priſoners of war. But the French, finding it impracticable to maintain that poſt, abandoned it in the morning, after having done ſome miſchief to the ſluice, which the allies, on repoſſeſſing it, quickly repaired.---To ſhew how politely war was carried on in thoſe days, we ſhall juſt mention, that, the ſame morning, the generals of the French army came with about 200 officers to take a view of the inundation of the allies on the other ſide of the Scarpe, between that river and Bouchain; and, the Hereditary Prince of Heſſe Caſſel happening to be there, Marſhal Villars ſent to know, whether he would give him leave to ſalute him?

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The prince, having given his consent, advanced with some officers to meet the marshal, and told him he was very glad of the opportunity of being acquainted with him. They exchanged several compliments; and M. de Villars presented to his highness Marshals Berwick, d'Arco, and Montesquieu, the Duke of Bourbon, and the Pretender. At presenting the latter, he said to the prince, "This is the Chevalier de St. George;" adding, with a smile, "You know, sir, well enough who he is." Villars, observing that six squadrons were drawn up pretty near, asked his highness, why those horse were there; and being answered, that it was out of respect and civility to him, he replied, "that he was very well acquainted with those troops and their gallantry." He invited his highness to come to his camp and honour him with his presence at dinner; adding that he would command his army to their arms, and entertain him with a sight of it; but the prince answered, he would not accept of his compliment at present, but there might happen another opportunity; concluding, "that it only depended on the King of France shortly to procure the same." They hereupon parted with mutual civilities; the Prince retiring to his post, and the French generals to their camp.

The siege of Doway being in a fair way, on the 22d of June the trenches were opened before fort Scarpe. By the 25th of June things were brought to the last extremity, so that the garrison of Doway thought fit to beat the chamade about two in the afternoon; the hostages were exchanged shortly after; and, though there was some dispute at first about the including fort Scarpe in the capitulation, yet it was not long before matters were adjusted, and M. Albergotti agreed to surrender the town and fort at the same time. The articles of capitulation were signed on the 26th; and on the 29th M. Albergotti marched out at the head of his garrison, which consisted of 4527 men, having in a siege of fifty-two days, wherein he made thirty-two sallies,

sallies, lost about 3000 men killed and wounded. While the garrison were on their march, General Albergotti came back and dined with the Duke of Marlborough, as he had the day of the capitulation with the Prince of Orange. General Hompesch took possession of the town with one Saxon and five Dutch battalions. M. des Roques, engineer-general of the States, was appointed governor of fort Scarpe, and took possession thereof immediately. The confederates found in Doway forty pieces of brass cannon, 200 pieces of iron cannon, eight mortars, a considerable quantity of ammunition and small arms, but little or no provisions. As to the loss which the allies sustained in this siege, the French pretend that it fell little short of 13,000 men; whereas the list published by our historians do not make it exceed 8000 men killed and wounded: of these the English account stands thus, killed 570, wounded 1337; a loss so great, that there was no occasion for its being exaggerated. M. de Albergotti certainly made a very gallant defence, and as a soldier deserved very well of his prince; but he acted a little tyrannically towards the inhabitants of Doway; for finding, at the beginning of the siege, that his garrison would be streightened for provisions, he obliged every house-keeper, upon pain of death, to bring in whatever he had provided for his family to the public magazines, giving them assignments on the king when the siege should be over. He coined his own plate into money, as did also the governor; the other officers were likewise very forward in distinguishing themselves, and in consequence thereof they were all rewarded by the king in a particular manner: M. de Albergotti had a blue ribbon sent him, and was likewise appointed governor of Saar Louis.

The confederate armies remained a few days in their respective camps before Doway. On the 10th of July both armies marched, but were soon obliged to halt by reason of the badness of the roads and the heavy

rains. On the 12th they marched again, and encamped at Villers Brulin, with the Scarpe before them. Marshal Villars in the mean while disposed his troops in such a manner that the confederates found it impracticable to attack him, or to besiege Arras or Cambray: it was likewise dangerous to attempt Valenciennes, Bouchain, or Maubeuge; but Bethune, Aire, St. Venant, and Ypres, all lay open to their arms. For some days, however, the armies were so encamped, that the soldiers conversed freely with each other, having no very broad river between them. Things did not continue so long: the generals of the allies having caused a new train of heavy artillery to advance from Ghent, with a prodigious supply of ammunition of all sorts, and the engineers in garrison towns being directed to join the army in order to supply the places of such as had been wounded in the last siege, they were quickly in readiness to form a new siege, and accordingly that of Bethune was resolved on.

Bethune is a place of very great importance in the earldom of Artois; though it is not very large, yet by its situation it is very strong, and its fortifications tolerably regular. It has six bastions; it has also an old castle on the west side with some outworks and double covered ways; so that it was very capable of making a long defence. It is seated on the little river of Biette, three leagues from Aire, six from Lisle, as many from Doway, and five from Arras. It was taken by the French in the year 1645; and confirmed to them by the peace at Pyrennees in 1659. At this time M. de Puy Vauban, lieutenant-general and nephew to the great Marshal de Vauban, was governor; and, if he had been provided in every respect as well as he was in point of a garrison, the French are of opinion that he would have held the place out much longer than he did; as it was, he held it out much longer than any body expected, and longer than any place of the same force was ever held before. In the night between the 14th

and 15th the place was inveſted by thirty battalions and eighteen ſquadrons, under the command of Generals Fagel and Schulemberg; the horſe were commanded by Lieutenant-general Wood. The troops worked on the lines of circumvallation till the 23d. In the night between that and the 24th they opened the trenches at two attacks, that under General Fagel was on the ſide of the gate of Arras, where there was but one covered way, and the other before the gate of Aire, where there was but one covered way alſo. The night between the 24th and 25th, M. de Vauban made one of the moſt vigorous ſallies we find any account of during the war: two Pruſſian regiments were forced from their poſts; and 600 or 700 men were killed on both ſides. Indeed this gentleman made a defence not only obſtinate, but conducted with ſuch art and ſkill as demonſtrated how worthy a pupil he had been of that great engineer his uncle. On the 18th of Auguſt General Schulemberg had deſigned to attack the covered way, but was obliged to put it off till the next day, when, a reinforcement arriving in the camp, he performed it, and made himſelf maſter of the poſt after a very bloody engagement, in which the engineers particularly ſuffered. General Fagel on the other ſide proceeded by ſap, with great diligence; and General Schulemberg, battering the place in breach from his attack, began to make the neceſſary preparations for paſſing the foſſe, which was remarkably deep and broad, and for attacking a ravelin and counterguard; but M. de Vauban, conſidering the weakneſs of his garriſon, the ſcarcity of proviſions, the wideneſs of the breaches, and the want they were in of bullets and flints, thought fit to beat the chamade, and hung out two white flags, the one at the great breach of the caſtle, the other at the ravelin. When this was done, abundance of people repaired to the counterſcarp, among the reſt ſome French officers; a little after M. de Vauban himſelf came thither, and General Schulemberg immediately

advanced to meet him, and they talked together with a great deal of freedom and civility, till an accident put them all in confusion. M. de Vauban having hung out his flags on the side of General Schulemberg's attacks, where the breach was made, General Fagel, who had carried his attack no farther than the palliſades, conceived his honour intereſted in this buſineſs, becauſe the chamade was not beat on his ſide, and therefore he gave notice to M. de Vauban, that, if all the honour of the ſiege was to be given to General Schulemberg, he would take no notice of what might be agreed between them, but would continue to fire from his attack, notwithſtanding the ſuſpenſion of arms. Schulemberg and Vauban were not a little ſurpriſed at Fagel's nicety: Schulemberg obſerved, that very poſſibly that gentleman might doubt of the conqueſt of the place, if he had it not in his power to inform the States-general his maſters, that the hoſtages were exchanged; he therefore intreated M. de Vauban to go through all the forms in order to quiet M. Fagel, which the French governor did, his circumſtances not allowing him to ſtand upon punctilios. On the 29th the capitulation was ſigned at General Fagel's quarters, where Prince Eugene and the Duke of Marlborough, and the States deputies, dined with M. de Vauban. The next day the garriſon marched out with two pieces of cannon and all marks of honour: it was reduced to about 1500 men, 2000 having been killed and wounded during the ſiege, which continued thirty five days open trenches. The allies had about 3500 men killed and wounded before it, a prodigious number, conſidering how ſmall a place Bethune was, and how little ſuch a defence as this was expected. The allies ſent three battalions into the place, under the command of Major-general Keppel, brother to the Earl of Albemarle, to whom the government was given.

A little before the ſurrender of Bethune a very briſk action happened between the advanced guards of Prince Eugene

Eugene and M. de Villars. His highneſs's right wing making a forage on the 24th of Auguſt, under a guard of 500 horſe and 1000 Daniſh and Heſſian foot, Villars, having notice of this, ſent the Marquis de Broglio with 500 horſe to reconnoitre them, giving him expreſs orders to attempt nothing till himſelf with fifty ſquadrons ſhould be at hand to ſupport him; but M. de Broglio, thinking the eſcort too weak to reſiſt him, attacked them briſkly, puſhed the ſquadrons for a conſiderable ſpace, and took thirty horſes; but, advancing beyond the corner of a wood, he perceived that it was filled with grenadiers, upon which he retired, and ordered his dragoons to diſmount, in order to attack the foot in the wood; but they were ſcarcely off their horſes before the ſquadrons of the allies came thundering upon them, being reinforced by the piquet guard from Prince Eugene's camp. Broglio, now ordering his men to mount, turned the horſes he had taken looſe, reſolving to retire as faſt as poſſible; but the grenadiers, making a diſcharge, killed him 100 men on the ſpot, and made a colonel, two captains, and 200 or 300 more, priſoners. At that inſtant M. de Villars advanced with ſixteen ſquadrons, which gave M. de Broglio and his people time to retire, which the marſhal likewiſe did with ſome precipitation; this affair having like to have brought on an engagement, which Villars by no means fought.

The Duke of Marlborough's motions giving Villars to apprehend that he intended to make himſelf maſter of the poſt of St. Venant, he ſent thither M. de Selves, with four battalions, and, though the place was only palliſadoed, obliged the allies to beſiege it in form; he likewiſe reinforced the garriſon of Aire with ſix battalions, ſent the Chevalier de Luxembourg with the brigade of Poitou and a regiment of dragoons to Valenciennes, not doubting, but on the ſurrender of Bethune ſome of theſe places would be viſited by the allies, in which he was not at all miſtaken. The trenches

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were no ſooner filled up before Bethune, than the generals of the allies began to think of new conqueſts. Prince Eugene was at firſt of opinion to attack Marſhal Villars in his camp; with this view he came with a great body of horſe to take a view of it on the 31ſt of Auguſt, which the marſhal permitted without the leaſt interruption; and his highneſs was ſo well ſatisfied with that general's diſpoſitions, that when he returned he abandoned his former deſign, and conſented to beſiege St. Venant and Aire, in order to ſecure the navigation of the Lys. In order to the execution of this ſcheme, the armies marched from their reſpective camps of Villars, Brulin, and Rebreuvre, on the 2d of September. Eugene extended his right to Treeblanche and Lingem; Marlborough fixed his left at Divion, his grace taking his quarters in the caſtle of Liere; eighteen ſquadrons, ten battalions, with twelve pieces of cannon, brought up the rear, which M. de Villars did not think fit to attack.

On the 4th, 2000 horſe, under the command of Count Lagnaſco, a lieutenant-general in King Auguſtus's ſervice, ſupported by ſix battalions, paſſed the Lys at St. Quintin, and inveſted Aire on that ſide; the two armies marched in the afternoon, Prince Eugene taking up his quarters at the caſtle of Bleſſel, and the duke his at the monaſtery of St. Andre. On the 6th, Aire was entirely inveſted, and the Prince of Anhalt Deſſau took upon him the command of the ſiege, having under him four lieutenant-generals, eight major-generals, eight brigadiers, and forty battalions; twenty-ſix from the army of the Duke of Marlborough and fourteen from that of Prince Eugene; the Earl of Albemarle with forty ſquadrons covered them.

Aire, or Arien, is a very conſiderable place in the earldom of Artois; it is ſeated on the river Lys, and is very ſtrong by nature, having on three ſides a flat marſh, ſo that no approaches can be made but on the fourth ſide only; as to the advantages it derived from art,

art, they likewiſe were great; it had ten baſtions, as many half-moons, two horn-works, and, on the ſide by which it is moſt approachable, the ſtrong fort of St. James's, which had four baſtions, two half-moons, and a deep ditch. It was taken by the French in the year 1676, and, like moſt other places, had received great improvements from the ſkill of their engineers. The Marquis de Goebriant, lieutenant-general, commanded therein, having a good garriſon with a numerous body of miners, cannoneers, bombardiers, pioneers, &c. under the command of M. de Valiere, commandant of the artillery.

The trenches were opened before Aire on the 12th of September, at two attacks, one on the ſide of St. Quintin, the other on the ſide of Lambre. The 21ſt, at night, the beſieged made a ſally with 400 fuſileers and 200 workmen, but they were obliged to retreat with great loſs. On the 23d the beſiegers attacked a redoubt, and carried it after a ſhort reſiſtance: M. de Goebriant was at dinner when this happened. M. d'Audencourt colonel of the regiment Lorrain deſired a detachment of 200 grenadiers to attempt the recovery of it; it was accordingly granted him, and he immediately made a ſally, but, being obliged to paſs under the fire of the confederate batteries and parallel, his detachment was diſabled before it could reach the redoubt, and himſelf had his thigh ſhattered all to pieces. In the night between the 28th and 29th the beſieged made a ſignal by firing three pieces of cannon; General Grumkau, who commanded in the trenches, thereupon gave orders for the troops at their reſpective poſts to be upon their guard, but before thoſe orders could be well diſtributed 1200 men from the town broke into the trenches with ſuch rapidity, that they carried all before them, demoliſhed part of the works, killed 200 or 300 men, amongſt whom were twenty-nine officers, but were at laſt repulſed with conſiderable ſlaughter. The next morning M. de Goebriant

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ſent out a drum to deſire leave to bury their dead; but, it being believed that he had ſomething elſe in view, this was denied him. In the night between 4th and 5th of October, the beſiegers attacked the redoubt which covered the cauſeway of Bethune; they were repulſed the firſt time with great loſs; they attacked it however an hour after, and were repulſed again; about ſeven in the morning they attacked it a third time, and carried it; but, as it was covered on the ſide of the town, they loſt between 100 and 200 men, as well by the fire of ſmall arms as of the artillery, and amongſt them ſeveral officers. General Effren was wounded, and Count Dhona had his head carried away by a cannon-ball: they had alſo three engineers killed and two wounded. Never were people more fatigued, nor did ever any beſieged place make a more terrible fire. As ſoon as the beſiegers lodged themſelves any where, their lodgment was blown up, and when they eſtabliſhed themſelves again on its ruins, M. Goebriant ſent ſuch clouds of bombs, carcaſſes, and large ſtones, as made them glad to leave them. To add to their mortification, it was about this time diſcovered that the engineers of the allies had, by ſome means or other, been drawn to make their attacks in the very ſtrongeſt places, where themſelves were moſt expoſed, and the enemy moſt covered; but this was particularly detrimental to the engineers themſelves, of whom in the night between the 8th and the 9th no leſs than three were killed and eight dangerouſly wounded. On the 15th the beſieged made a ſally, burnt ſome of the bridges, and drove the beſiegers from a lodgment they had made, which was however retaken the next night, in which a ſingular accident happened: ſix Engliſh officers being together in the trenches, one bullet from the place carried away nine of their legs; the ſame night, however, the beſiegers finiſhed four bridges, paſſed the avant foſſée, and lodged themſelves in two places; in the night of the 16th they attacked and made themſelves maſters

maſters of the ſaliant angle of the covered-way, after a very obſtinate diſpute; but in the morning M. Goebriant made a ſally and drove them out of it with ſtill greater loſs. On the 17th they attempted it again, and were again repulſed. In the night between the 21ſt and 22d, the beſiegers finiſhed five new bridges, but the great rains and the prodigious fire from the place hindered them from making any uſe of them. On the 28th, the beſiegers at the left attack lodged themſelves on a place of arms on the covered-way; but on the right they were not able to advance at all, on account of the prodigious inundations, occaſioned by the heavy rains which fell about this time. On the 30th, the beſiegers attacked the counterſcarp and the bonnet on the ſide of the gate of Arras; they made a lodgment there after a conſiderable loſs, but before they were ſettled M. de Goebriant ſent them all into the air, and at the ſame time made a ſally into the trenches with ſuch fury, that the beſiegers were obliged to abandon their whole deſign, having loſt between 500 and 600 grenadiers. The confederate generals however were reſolved to carry the poſt, and on the 1ſt of November made a good lodgment for 150 men, after a moſt obſtinate reſiſtance, M. Goebriant diſputing every inch of ground, and taking care to ſprinkle it well with the blood of thoſe that took it from him. On the 2d, at night, the neceſſary diſpoſitions were made for attacking the two angles of the covered-way and the place of arms, 800 grenadiers and 400 fuſileers were appointed for that purpoſe. They attacked the enemy twice with great bravery, and at laſt made themſelves maſters of thoſe poſts, and made a lodgment in each of them; but M. de Goebriant, ſpringing a mine, blew up 100 men, and, ſallying immediately after, with the greateſt part of his garriſon, drove the grenadiers, fuſileers, and workmen, from all the poſts; the ſame hot work continued for ſeveral days after, ſo that the beſiegers were forced to

abandon one of their attacks. On the 8th of November, however, the ſaps being joined, and the beſieged obſerving that the allies were making all the neceſſary preparations for ſtorming the place, M. de Goebriant ſent for the magiſtrates of the town, and told them, that, though he was ſtill in a condition to defend the town, and might, after all, withdraw into the fort, yet he thought it his duty, in compaſſion to them who had behaved ſo well, to capitulate for their preſervation; he accordingly ordered the chamade to be beat in the evening of the 8th, after having ſuſtained a ſiege of fifty-eight days open trenches. Hoſtages were the next day exchanged, and the capitulation ſettled in the evening. The articles were, in ſubſtance, That the garriſon ſhould march out with all the uſual marks of honour, four pieces of cannon and two mortars; that ſuch as deſired to quit the city ſhould have three months allowed them to diſpoſe of their effects; that the ſick and wounded ſhould remain in the place till they were recovered; that the garriſon ſhould be allowed ſix covered waggons; deſerters to be delivered up on both ſides, priſoners exchanged, hoſtages left for the payment of the debts of the garriſon, and a faithful diſcovery made of all the mines, with a juſt account of what was contained in the magazines. In reſpect to M. de Goebriant, Prince Eugene and the Duke of Marlborough made him a preſent of two pieces of cannon, and allowed him a day more than was agreed by the capitulation to refreſh himſelf and his men. On the 12th of October, he marched out at the head of 3628 men, leaving about 1500 ſick and wounded in the place. His garriſon was greatly reduced by the warm actions and mighty fatigues which it had ſuſtained. The allies loſt at leaſt 7000 men before this place, of which, as ſoon as it was evacuated, the Count of Naſſau Woudenbourg was appointed governor, and immediately entered it at the head of eight battalions. His moſt chriſtian majeſty, according to cuſtom, rewarded

warded all the officers who diſtinguiſhed themſelves in this memorable ſiege: to the Marquis de Goebriant he ſent the blue ribband, the reſt of the officers were gratified either with penſions or preſents; and at the ſame time all the world did juſtice to their valour and conduct, manifeſted in the long defence of this place.

At the ſame time that Aire was beſieged, namely, on the 6th of September, the Prince of Orange inveſted St. Venant, and gave orders for turning the ſtream of the Robeck, by an inundation of which little river the place was chiefly defended. St. Venant is a very ſmall place, not thoroughly fortified, but what fortifications it had were of a regular form, viz. that of a hexagon; the waters of the river Lys and of the rivulet before-mentioned, form ſuch an inundation round it on all ſides but one, that except on that it could not be approached, by which means it became abſolutely neceſſary to drain theſe waters in order to open the trenches before it: 4000 workmen were employed to this purpoſe, covered by ſix battalions, and they wrought ſo hard that the waters quickly abated, and, as appeared from an intercepted letter from Brigadier Selves, he himſelf began to have ſmall hopes of making a long defence. On the ſixteenth in the evening the trenches were opened before St. Venant, within 150 perches of the counterſcarp, a thing unheard of before; the nearneſs had one inconvenience, viz. that they were preſently diſcovered, and, the garriſon making a prodigious fire, 150 men were either killed or wounded; they drew however a parallel that night of 180 perches, the night following they perfected their works. In the night between the 18th and 19th the beſiegers drew a line of 140 perches from the left of the parallel to the point of the ditch, which ſurrounds the ſaliant angle of the counterſcarp, where they made a lodgment; they began at the ſame time to work on a battery of ſix pieces of cannon, which fired on the place the 21ſt in the morning. The night

following, and the 22d in the evening, they carried on their works to the point of the counter-guard which covered the firſt counterſcarp. In the night between the 22d and 23d the beſieged made a ſally with ſeven companies of grenadiers; at firſt they had ſome ſucceſs, they obliged the workmen to retreat, over-turned the gabions, and filled up part of a trench; but the troops who were ordered to ſupport the workmen repulſed them in their turn, and obliged them to retire into the town. The next night they ſallied again, under the command of M. Beringa Dugna; he behaved with great conduct and reſolution, and would probably have done a great deal of miſchief, if he had not received a ſhot in the head, of which he died. The beſieged took care to light fires, which expoſed the trenches ſo much to view, and enabled them to fire with ſuch exactneſs, that they could work but very ſlow. In the night of the 25th the beſiegers paſſed two ditches, and made a lodgment on the ſaliant angle; the 26th they paſſed the ditch, and, a breach being made in the counter-guard, they attacked it the 28th, and the ſaliant angle of the ſecond counterſcarp. The beſieged defended themſelves bravely in both, repulſing the troops of the allies twice; but, a bomb falling in one of the principal magazines of the place, Brigadier Selves found himſelf reduced to extremity; he beat the chamade the next day, and the day following, being the 30th of September, the capitulation was ſigned, and the garriſon marched out with their arms and baggage in order to be conducted to Arras. The French gave out that the allies loſt 1500 men before the place, though its fortifications were but of earth; but without doubt this account is too large, the allies themſelves own between 900 and 1000 killed and wounded.

M. le Blanc, intendant of Ypres, having given intelligence to the Count de Villars, who commanded in that place, that the allies were ſending a great convoy by the Lys, he detached M. de Ravignan, marſhal-de-camp,

camp, at the head of nineteen companies of grenadiers, 1500 fuſileers, and the regiment of dragoons commanded by M. de Chaumont, to attack it. M. de Ravignan marched all night through the wood of St. Eloy, paſſed within ſight of Menin, and within half muſket-ſhot of Courtray, and arrived about two in the afternoon on the banks of the Lys. Thirty huſſars, whom he had detached to make diſcoveries, rejoined him here, with advice that the allies were in order of battle at St. Eloyvive, and had their boats in the rear. Upon this he haſtened the march of his troops, and, while his infantry was forming, advanced at the head of the dragoons. The Earl of Athlone commanded the eſcort of this convoy, which conſiſted of 1300 foot and 600 horſe. He extended his left to an impracticable moraſs in the neighbourhood of the Lys, his front being covered by a little meadow, cut by three ditches, and had poſted his cavalry on the right where there was no entrenchment. M. de Ravignan, having well conſidered the diſpoſition of the troops of the allies, reſolved to attack them, which he performed with great bravery and conduct. The Earl of Athlone did every thing that could be expected from a brave man and an experienced officer; but M. de Ravignan, by the knowledge he had of the country, brought his grenadiers to flank the cavalry, while his regiment of dragoons attacked them in front. Some hundreds of the Earl of Athlone's infantry were killed and drowned, 600 were taken priſoners, among which were the earl himſelf, a brigadier, a lieutenant-colonel, and thirty-ſix other officers, 300 or 400 horſes were likewiſe taken, with all the cattle belonging to the bilanders, which, being loaded with the ſpoil, were ſent away to Arras. The next thing reſolved on was to deſtroy all the ammunition on-board thoſe veſſels; ten grenadiers were drawn out for this purpoſe, and after having taken all the precautions they could, ſuch as ſtopping their ears, and throwing themſelves

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flat on the earth, after they had diſpoſed the trains and ſet fire to them, they waited for the blow, which followed in a minute or two, and coſt two of them their lives: the ſhock was ſo violent that it threw down the houſes in the village of St. Eloy, the ground ſhook as far as Valenciennes and St. Quintin, where there were ſeveral windows broke; the Lys was divided and ran in two different channels; 380,000 lbs. weight of powder was deſtroyed, with ſome cannon and mortars, an immenſe quantity of balls, bombs, carcaſſes and grenades, together with great ſtore of brandy, &c. The noiſe of this affair quickly reached the camps of the allies, and the adjacent garriſons, ſo that various detachments were ſent to look for M. de Ravignan. As his troops were terribly fatigued and embarraſſed with booty and priſoners, they could not march very faſt, but the wiſdom of their commander ſupplied this defect; he choſe ſuch roads as would not admit a great body of horſe to act, and, keeping his regiment of dragoons and a choice detachment of grenadiers in his rear, he arrived ſafe at Ypres on the night of the 20th of September, after having performed one of the moſt ſoldier-like actions in the whole war. The allies were by this accident obliged to have recourſe to the magazines in Tournay and Liſle, from whence there were immediately ſent 300 waggon-loads of proviſions and ammunition, under an eſcort of 1500 horſe, while in the mean time vaſt quantities of powder, bombs, ball, &c. were ſent from Ghent by the Scheld to Tournay, and a vaſt number of workmen employed, covered by a ſtrong detachment of horſe and foot, in weighing the cannon, mortars, bombs, &c. which M. de Ravignan had ſunk; for, till this was done, the navigation of the Lys was quite ruined.---Thus ended the campaign in Flanders.---The allies broke up from before Aire on the 15th of November, and marched directly to the plains of Liſle, from whence ſuch detachments were made as were to

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form the garrisons of that city, Tournay, and other places; and then, satisfied with the reduction of Doway, Bethune, St. Venant, and Aire, they went into winter-quarters. The Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene quitted the army the 16th of November, and after visiting Tournay, Ghent, and Brussels, they arrived on the 28th of the same month at the Hague. Their highnesses remained there a considerable time, and had several private conferences with the grand pensionary, as well as several public ones with the foreign ministers and the deputies of the States. On the 11th of December Prince Eugene set out for Vienna, and on the 23d of the same month the Duke of Marlborough embarked for England; on the 28th he came to London, and, entering the city in the evening, the houses were illuminated, and the people testified by the loudest acclamations the love and respect they had for his grace; though some time before they had shewn great marks of affection towards those who were known to be no friends to the Duke of Marlborough, but on the contrary were prosecuting, with all imaginable vigour, such steps as were likely to bring on his disgrace. His reception from the queen was as kind and favourable as he could wish, though he did not find the situation of things at court very agreeable to him or his interests. To explain this, we shall by and by give a succinct account of what happened at home while his grace was in the field; our present business is to complete the military and naval history of this year.

The emperor was very desirous that the Elector of Hanover should have commanded the army on the Rhine, as heretofore, for which reason he confirmed him in the office of arch-treasurer of the empire; but his electoral highness was so thoroughly wearied of being at the head of half-battalions, ill clothed and worse paid, that he desired to be excused from shewing that complaisance which he had hitherto done, for a court on whose promises there was so little dependance.

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He alleged also that his presence was necessary in his own dominions, on account of the war in the north, which had been rekindled by the King of Denmark, the consequence of which could not be foreseen; upon which the emperor gave the command of the army to Prince Eugene, which was matter of form only; for soon after a patent was expedited, granting the command to Lieutenant-general Gronsfeld, who was directed to conform himself to the orders sent him by Prince Eugene, who continued to serve in Flanders, as we have seen. The Marshal de Harcourt had the command of the French army, and the Marshal de Bezons went to serve under him; the former, finding his health very much impaired, retired very early to Paris, and the two armies, after observing each other till the month of November, went into winter-quarters without doing or attempting to do any thing.

His most christian majesty was this year under some apprehensions that the Duke of Savoy would make a new visit to Dauphiny or Provence, attended by an English fleet. He sent therefore the Duke of Berwick, who had this year served under Marshal Villars in Flanders, to command the troops in those provinces, into which the Piedmontese and German troops attempted an irruption under the command of Count Dhaun, but the count, after an unsuccessful campaign, understanding the Duke of Berwick had sent the greatest part of his army towards the frontiers of Spain, thought of retiring quietly into Piedmont; but the Duke of Savoy, receiving private information that bread for three weeks was baking at Grenoble, and that the Duke of Berwick had countermanded the march of his forces, apprehended that general had a design upon Exiles, and immediately sent his orders for the Piedmontese troops to march back again; of which when the Duke of Berwick was informed, he put a stop to the baking of bread, and ordered his forces to continue their march, having nothing more in view than that his royal high-

neſs's troops ſhould have their belly full of marching. After this his grace returned to Paris, where he was very kindly received by the French king, who was pleaſed to tell him in his drawing-room, "That he had not either loſt fame or ground ſince he commanded in Dauphiny."

We are now to paſs into Spain, where ſeveral great events happened this year, which ſome have reckoned the warmeſt of the war.

King Charles, as he had preſſed his allies to make their utmoſt efforts in Spain this year, ſo he was no leſs aſſiduous on his part for their having every thing in readineſs for acting early, knowing that almoſt all the misfortunes which had hitherto befallen his arms, were owing to the late coming of his troops into the field, which gave the armies of the two crowns continual opportunities of taking their meaſures and making conqueſts before he was in any condition to oppoſe them. In the beginning of the month of February, therefore, he reviewed all his troops, and ſetting out from Barcelona viſited Gironne, Vich, Veiga, Cardona and Maureſa. He gave orders for making Balaguer a place of arms, and fortifying all the little places in that neighbourhood. Count Staremberg, who commanded Charles's troops, ſent his orders to all the general officers to have their reſpective corps ready to go into the field by the 12th of March, and alſo ſent a courier to Finale, to preſs the immediate departure of the grand convoy, with proviſions and ammunition for Barcelona. His majeſty found himſelf in a capacity of drawing into the field between eighteen and twenty thouſand of his troops, and the ſupplies he expected by the beginning of the year were to encreaſe them to thirty thouſand; and at the head of ſuch a body he doubted not of making the conqueſt of Arragon.

In the beginning of May, Philip V. took the field, with an army compoſed entirely of Spaniards. As the French king could no longer aſſiſt his grandſon,

he had been obliged to do in part what his enemies had demanded at Gertruydenberg, to abandon the cauſe of Philip, by ordering his troops from Spain to his own defence. Philip was likewiſe deprived of a general as well as troops from France. The Duke of Orleans, by whom his tottering condition had been ſomewhat recovered, inſtead of continuing to command his armies, was become his enemy. He even entertained hopes of ſupplanting him in the crown. The Spaniſh army was formed on the borders of Catalonia, near Lerida, where Philip joined it, and paſſed the Segro with an intent to have beſieged Balaguer; but the waters of that river riſing ſuddenly, and carrying away his bridges, his army was thereby greatly diſtreſſed for two days. Count Staremberg, being inferior in number, kept his troops upon the defenſive, and, on King Philip's marching farther into the country, took poſſeſſion of his camp near Balaguer. The Spaniſh army often provoked that of the allies to an engagement, but Count Staremberg was one of thoſe generals who would fight only when himſelf was in humour, and not to ſatisfy other people. On the 27th of July, King Philip marched towards the Noguera with intention to paſs that river near Alfaras, but Don Miguel de Sello, and Don Pedro de Ronquillo, whom he had ſent with a great body of horſe and dragoons to take poſſeſſion of a paſs, found it occupied by twenty-ſeven ſquadrons of the allies. King Charles having already paſſed the Noguera, and being in full march with all his army, the king being informed of this ſent to the Marquis of Villadarias to march that way with all the cavalry; but the allies, firing from a battery of five pieces of cannon, killed Don Joſeph de Figuera, colonel of the regiment of Medina Sidonia, and ſeveral other officers. They then charged the half-formed Spaniſh horſe, broke both their lines, and forced them to retire ſo precipitately from the hills, that, running on the foot, they put them into confuſion, ſo that in a ſhort ſpace

the whole army, notwithſtanding King Philip's preſence, fled without order towards Lerida, leaving part of their baggage to be pillaged by the victors. The Marquis de Vallejo, one of the lords of the bedchamber to the king, performed an action that day worthy of immortal honour: obſerving that twenty-ſeven ſquadrons of the horſe of the allies were coming down upon the broken foot, he took a reſolution to ſacrifice himſelf and his regiment of dragoons to preſerve the army from being totally ruined. He divided his regiment into five pelotons, and, on a full trot, fell upon the twenty-ſeven ſquadrons ſword in hand, which had the effect deſired, though it coſt moſt of his men their lives. The King of Spain loſt here fifteen hundred men, amongſt whom was the brave Duke de Saerno, and two hundred officers. General Verboom was wounded and made priſoner. The allies had about two hundred men killed, moſt of them by the Marquis Vallejo's dragoons, among whom were the Earl of Rochfort and Count Naſſau; the Lords Stanhope and Capel were wounded. Such was the action of Almanara, which was not a little fatal to King Philip's affairs, inaſmuch as it diſcouraged his troops and obliged him to recal the Marquis de Bay from Eſtramadura.

Count Staremberg was extremely preſſed by King Charles to march into Arragon, but he would not be perſuaded to ſtir till he had recovered the poſts which King Philip had behind him, whereby his communication might have been cut off with Barcelona. This being effected, he marched with his army, which conſiſted of about twenty-four thouſand men, towards Saragoſſa. King Philip, who was at this time much indiſpoſed, having left a good garriſon in Lerida, marched the ſame way. The allies, having paſſed the Cinca, advanced towards Fraga to hinder the paſſage of King Philip; but, finding he had already paſſed, detached twenty-eight ſquadrons to fall upon

his rear, which they did near Peſialva with great vigour. The Spaniards purpoſely broke, and, being diſtracted with the reproaches they had met with for the buſineſs of Almanara, charged theſe ſquadrons when they were in the heart of them with ſuch fury, that they cut to pieces ſeven hundred men, and amongſt them a great many officers. They loſt themſelves three hundred, but this did them little ſervice; for the next day, having no bread, the ſoldiers were ſo miſerably fatigued that numbers fell down in the road and were made priſoners. The king, growing worſe and worſe, was conſtrained to retire to Saragoſſa, and leave the command of the army to the Marquis de Bay. The marquis immediately cauſed it to paſs in review, and found that of thirty-two thouſand there were but ſeventeen thouſand left, and of theſe not fifteen thouſand were able to do duty, the reſt being much fitter for an hoſpital than for the field. An officer told the marquis that it was unfortunate he ſhould be called from making conqueſts in Portugal to riſque all his honour with ſo feeble an army: to which the Marquis anſwered, "Sir, I am ſorry for my king and country's misfortunes; but as for honour I account that the greateſt to be thought worthy of the king's commands where things are in the worſt order, and, if I cannot reſtore them, I ſhall fall with great ſatisfaction in endeavouring to do it."

On the 19th both armies paſſed the night under arms in order of battle, the twentieth at break of day they began to cannonade each other. The Duke de Avre was killed early in the morning by a cannon-ſhot, which greatly diſpirited the Spaniſh troops. Count Staremberg ſent King Charles away before he would engage. He then diſpoſed his troops for the engagement. The right was given to General Stanhope, the left to General Belcaſtel; Staremberg acted himſelf in the centre, and had a very ſtrong body of reſerve. The army of Philip had Meſſieurs de Amezaga

zaga and Mahoni in the right, Don Joſeph Armandaritz and Don Pedro Ronquillo in the left, the Counts de Meroda and Lancarota in the centre, the Marquis de Bay commanding in chief. The right of the Spaniſh army fell upon the left of the allies, and broke their cavalry, but M. Mahoni, advancing with his ſquadrons too far, could never afterwards return: he made two attempts to force the ſquadrons between him and the Spaniſh troops, but in vain. The Marquis de Bay ſaw the miſtake, and endeavoured to remedy it; but the troops he ſent marched ſo ſlowly that Count Staremberg's troops took them in flank, and, the diſorder growing continually greater, the allies bore down all before them. M. de Mahoni, perceiving that all was over, marched with his horſe to eſcort the king, who lay ſick of a fever at a houſe half a mile diſtant from the camp. The Marquis de Bay retired as well as he could to Tudela, and Prince Tſerclaſs de Tilly carried off a conſiderable body to Grana. The allies remained maſters of the field of battle, the Spaniards having loſt two thouſand men killed and wounded, and fifteen hundred made priſoners. Staremberg reſolved immediately to puſh his conqueſt to the utmoſt, and in the mean time took poſſeſſion of Saragoſſa, and began to change the magiſtrates, and to eſtabliſh magazines, that he might be in no danger of having his rear attacked in caſe of any misfortune. He alſo ſent a great part of the priſoners with a ſtrong eſcort to Barcelona, and gave the neceſſary orders for fortifying the little places in the neighbourhood; after which he took the road of Madrid.

In the late action the Britiſh troops under General Stanhope acquired great honour. It was remarked, that neither of the two princes who diſputed the crown of Spain was preſent at the battle, though both were within reach of their reſpective armies.

Philip was now in a deſperate condition, his army exceſſively weakened, abundance of his beſt officers killed,

killed, himſelf obliged to fly, though in a very bad ſtate of health, and his competitor at the head of a triumphant army in full march towards his capital. The inhabitants of Saragoſſa ſhewed an extraordinary and unexpected affection for his perſon, furniſhing his troops with three days proviſion, and himſelf with whatever carriages he wanted. Count Louvigny, governor of Lerida, having received advice of the loſs of the battle of Saragoſſa, and that the priſoners were ſent back to Barcelona, marched in the night with a great detachment of his garriſon, fell upon the eſcort, and recovered ſeven hundred men. As for the reſt of the priſoners made in that battle, eight hundred of them enliſted in the troops of King Charles, but deſerted again as ſoon as they got into Caſtile, and perſuaded a great many Catalans and Germans to go along with them. Three thouſand recruits marched from Andaluſia to join the army of the Marquis de Bay, and the conſulate of Seville advanced King Philip three hundred thouſand crowns for his preſſing occaſions. He was however forced to quit Madrid, having firſt cauſed the Duke de Medina Celi, whom he had impriſoned at Segovia, to be ſent under a guard of horſe to Fontarabia. He then reſolved to retire with the queen and Prince of Aſturias to Valladolid, the ancient reſidence of the kings of Caſtile. His majeſty when he left Madrid ſummoned all the councils, wherein he told them that his affairs were in a very bad condition, that he did not pretend to conſtrain any body to follow him, and that in his deſperate ſituation his ſole reſource was in the hearts of his ſubjects. This did not hinder, however, great numbers of perſons of quality from accompanying him, ſo that when he quitted Madrid he had a thouſand coaches in his train: almoſt all the inhabitants followed for three leagues, wiſhing their majeſties a happy return, and obliging them to ſtop ſeveral times that they might weep over the Prince of Aſturias, who ſat in his mother's lap ſick

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of an ague. King Charles entered Madrid on the 4th of October; but the people expreſſed very little joy for his arrival, on the contrary they would not ſo much as pick up the money that was thrown in the ſtreets, but ſhut their doors, and obſtinately refuſed to put out lights. In the evening a ſort of play was acted, wherein there were certain panegyrics on the houſe of Auſtria and on the king; but the unfortunate author of this piece was found ſtabbed in the ſtreets the next day.

The religious enthuſiaſm of the Spaniards, together with a rooted averſion to the houſe of Auſtria, by whom they had been oppreſſed for near two centuries, was of greater ſervice to the cauſe of Philip than their arms. They conſidered Charles III. as a prince impoſed on them by heretics; and their attachment to his rival roſe in proportion to his misfortunes. General Stanhope, who had poſſeſſed himſelf of Madrid, was better calculated to defeat an enemy than to gain the affections of the vanquiſhed. The army lived at large upon the people, without order, without moderation, and without diſcipline. They raiſed contributions on private perſons; they pillaged the churches, and ſold publicly the utenſils of the altar. The ravages of the allies, combining with the obſtinacy of the Spaniards, created ſuch a dearth of proviſions in Caſtile, that ſeventeen thouſand men, the number of which the victors conſiſted, found themſelves incapable of ſubſiſting in the heart of the kingdom.

In this deſperate ſtate of Philip's affairs, the Spaniſh nobility who adhered to his cauſe, ſenſible that theſe misfortunes were occaſioned by the army wanting a commander who was capable of acting againſt Staremberg, wrote in a body to Louis XIV. entreating he would ſend them the Duke de Vendome. That general, who ever ſince the cloſe of the campaign of 1708 had quitted all public buſineſs, accepted the flattering invitation, and immediately ſet out for Spain. His preſence gave a new turn to affairs in that kingdom. He was

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the idol of the ſoldiers; his influence therefore preſently procured a conſiderable army to be aſſembled; to provide for which, the whole kingdom cheerfully contributed free gifts. Vendome knew very well how to avail himſelf of the ardour which he had excited; he drove the conquerors from the capital, and replaced the fugitive king. A large reinforcement of French troops arrived from the Duke of Berwick in Dauphiny; ſo that his army, before the end of October, amounted to 30,000 men. Another body of French troops, under the Duke de Noailles, which were aſſembled in Rouſſillon, and had already defeated the deſigns of the confederate fleet, in ſupport of the Cevennois, were now ready to enter Catalonia. So entirely was the poſture of affairs in Spain inverted, in the courſe of a few weeks, that the allied army under Staremberg, was obliged to retreat towards Portugal, whilſt General Stanhope, with five thouſand Britiſh troops, marched towards Catalonia. The latter ſtopped, on the 8th of December, at a ſmall unfortified town called Briheuga, in New Caſtile, where he repoſed himſelf in full ſecurity. The vigilance of Vendome purſued him thither: the town was ſuddenly inveſted; all hopes of eſcape were cut off, before any danger was perceived. Stanhope did every thing that a brave officer could do, but reſiſtance was in vain, he and his army were obliged to ſurrender priſoners at diſcretion. The Count de Staremberg, apprized of the danger that threatened Stanhope, put his whole army in full march to his relief, but he arrived too late: inſtead of extricating the Britiſh troops from the force that ſurrounded them, he found himſelf reduced to the neceſſity of fighting the French general under very great diſadvantages. The Duke de Vendome came up with the allies at Villavicioſa, about two leagues from the place of Stanhope's misfortune. A deſperate action enſued. Night at length parted the combatants. The allies retreated, leaving behind them twenty

twenty pieces of cannon, two mortars, and some waggons of provisions and ammunition; they had three thousand slain in the fight, and an equal number made prisoners.

We shall next give a short account of the campaign in Catalonia, and so conclude the operations of this year by land. The Duke de Noailles having been at Paris, and reported there the state of affairs in Spain, orders were immediately given for recruiting the forces in Roussillon, and sending thither such supplies of ammunition, provisions, artillery, and other necessaries, as might enable them to act offensively, though it was so late in the year. It was November before the duke arrived in that country, and the beginning of December before his forces were in a condition to march; however he instantly determined to pursue the orders he had received, and to form the siege of Gironne, which he accordingly invested on the fifteenth of that month. The place was every way very strong, as well by its situation as by the old and new fortifications which had been raised for its defence. It had a multitude of outworks, which constrained the besiegers to extend their lines excessively. On the summit of a steep hill, at a considerable distance from the town, stood the Red Fort; between it and the town there was a strong redoubt; on the top of another hill stood another regular fort called the Fort of Calvary; and a hundred and fifty paces from it a redoubt called the Capital: beyond it on the other side was Fort Constable, which had before it the retrenchments of the Capuchines, and between it and the bastion of the Carmelites there was a redoubt with several pieces of cannon. On the other side of the town in an island made by the rivers Ter and Dona, there was a very strong redoubt, called the redoubt of Bournonville, besides a new fort erected by the allies, and called, in honour of her Britannic majesty, Fort Anne. The Duke de Noailles began with the Red Fort, or Fort

Montjoy, the trenches before which were opened in the night between the 23d and 24th. By the 29th a large breach was made, and the duke reſolved to cauſe the place to be attacked: he left however the communication between it and the town open, that the Count de Tattembach, who commanded in the place, might, if he pleaſed, withdraw his garriſon. He then ordered a lieutenant and eight grenadiers to mount the breach in his preſence, who reported that there were ſome mines ready to blow up, as they apprehended, in which they were right; for they over-turned a few minutes afterwards two of the baſtions, and then the grenadiers entered, the place being abandoned. The Duke de Noailles erected three batteries, one againſt a redoubt between Fort Montjoy and the town, another againſt Fort Calvary, and the third on the other ſide of the river, to batter the town in breach. The garriſon made an obſtinate reſiſtance; but fearing at laſt that the enemy, who were in poſſeſſion of a great part of the town, would take the place by ſtorm, they beat the chamade; whereupon hoſtages were exchanged, and a capitulation agreed on, whereby the beſieged were permitted to retire into the forts Conſtable, Anne, and of the Capuchins, upon condition, that, if they were not relieved in ſix days, thoſe places ſhould alſo be ſurrendered. The Duke de Noailles having demanded an explication of the term relieved, Count Tattembach readily anſwered, that he would have underſtood thereby an army able to give battle to that of the Duke de Noailles, which was the ſame conſtruction the Duke de Noailles would have put on that word; but, no ſuch army appearing, the forts were rendered the laſt day of January, the garriſon marching out with all poſſible marks of honour. As ſoon as the duke was maſter of Gironne, he publiſhed a general amneſty very little expected by the Catalans, who had abandoned all the villages in the neighbourhood of that town, to which they preſently returned

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when they found that King Philip was not so implacable as they had been made to believe. Thus ended the campaign on this side, much about the time the Duke de Vendome encamped at Balaguer.

Very little was done by sea this year.---Sir Edward Whitaker was recalled from the Mediterranean, and Vice-admiral Baker only continued there with a small squadron to protect the trade and assist the King of Spain, until a more considerable force should be sent out from England.

Admiral Aylmer put to sea with a considerable fleet, with which he cruised in the channel, and escorted the outward-bound merchantmen out to sea. Whilst he was cruising about sixty-eight leagues south-west by west of the Lizard, he came in sight of a fleet of French merchantmen, under convoy of the Superbe, a French man of war of fifty-six guns, and the Concord of thirty. Soon after this intelligence had been received, the Kent, a seventy-gun ship, commanded by Captain Robert Johnson, came up with and engaged the Superbe; the action continued very hot for an hour, the Frenchman having more men on-board than the Kent, and the rest of the fleet being too far distant to afford any assistance. At length the Superbe struck; and, as she was a new ship, and a remarkable fast sailer, she proved a valuable acquisition. Another French man of war of fifty-six guns, called Le Galliard, was taken in the Mediterranean, by the Suffolk, Captain Cleveland, of seventy guns, one of Vice-admiral Baker's squadron.

The command of the fleet fitted out for the Mediterranean service was given to Sir John Norris, who set sail about the middle of January, 1710, and arrived at Port Mahon on the 13th of March. He immediately dispatched three English and two Dutch men of war to Barcelona, with money for the use of Charles, and to receive that prince's orders for the disposition of the fleet. Soon after the Pembroke of

ſixty-four guns, Captain Rumſey, and the Falcon, thirty-two guns, Captain Conſtable, in cruiſing to the ſouthward of Nice, fell in with five French men of war. The Toulouſe, a ſeventy-gun ſhip, firſt attacked the Pembroke, and in leſs than half an hour, two others, a ſixty-ſix gun ſhip and a fifty-gun ſhip, bore down upon her, and obliged her to ſtrike, after which the Falcon was likewiſe taken. Captain Rumſey was killed in the engagement, and 140 of the ſhip's company; her mizen-maſt was brought by the board, and all her rigging torn to pieces, before the officers agreed to ſurrender. Captain Conſtable in the Falcon had a ſhot through his ſhoulder, notwithſtanding which he never quitted the deck, neither would he ſtrike his flag until he had only ſixteen ſound men remaining! In ſome meaſure to compenſate for this loſs, two Engliſh men of war, the Breda and Warſpight, took a French ſixty-gun ſhip called the Moor.

Sir John Norris, being at Leghorn, received certain advice that the Duke de Turſis, a Genoeſe nobleman who commanded a fleet of gallies for the ſervice of King Philip, had taken on-board two thouſand men, in order to make a deſcent on the iſland of Sardinia. In conſequence of this, the admiral on the 1ſt day of June, detached four men of war to convoy ſome tranſports to Barcelona, with German recruits; alſo four Engliſh and four Dutch men of war to cruiſe in the heights of Toulon, for a fleet expected to arrive there from the Levant; with the reſt of the confederate fleet he ſailed to the aſſiſtance of Sardinia, having two imperial regiments on-board. His arrival defeated the deſigns which had been formed on that iſland. Thoſe who were diſaffected to the Auſtrian intereſt had taken arms on the arrival of the Duke de Turſis on their coaſt; but on the 5th of June the admiral entered the bay of Terra Nova, where he found four tartanes belonging to the enemy, which had landed four hundred men and ſixty officers, under the

the command of the Count de Caſtello. After ſecuring theſe veſſels, ſome forces were embarked to go in ſearch of Caſtello's party, which they ſoon after came up with, and obliged them to ſurrender at diſcretion. The news of the arrival of the confederate fleet had occaſioned Turſis to leave Sardinia precipitately, and take refuge in Ajaccio, on the iſland of Corſica. Thither he was purſued, but, not thinking himſelf ſecure in that harbour, he quitted it, leaving eight barks, with five hundred ſoldiers, and the greateſt part of his ammunition, artillery, and proviſions, imagining that the neutrality of the place would protect them, though he did not chooſe to riſk the ſafety of his own perſon. However, Sir John Norris did not heſitate to ſeize all that he could find; and ſignified to the republic of Genoa, that the Queen of Great Britain, his miſtreſs, could not but expreſs on all occaſions the higheſt reſentment againſt them, for having permitted one of their ſubjects to prepare, in their dominions, ſuch an armament, deſtined againſt one of the kingdoms belonging to the King of Spain, her ally; and that, looking upon their permiſſion, or connivance, as a breach of their neutrality, he would attack the queen's enemies in all their harbours. The Genoeſe governor, to whom theſe repreſentations were made, anſwered with much ſubmiſſion; promiſed that he would not ſupply the duke, or any that belonged to him, with proviſions; and moſt earneſtly requeſted that the admiral would not land any troops upon the iſland. Sir John Norris, ſenſible that it would be to very little purpoſe to follow the enemy to the mountains, deſiſted, and ſailed immediately for Barcelona, where he arrived on the 18th of June; and the King of Spain, deſiring that part of the troops might be landed in Valencia, and that the fleet might be as ſoon as poſſible at Terragona, it was reſolved to ſail thither directly, and to leave orders for Vice-admiral Baker to follow.

The Cevennois being ſtill in arms againſt the French king,

king, a design was formed to assist them, by making a descent on the coast of Languedoc. The troops embarked on-board the fleet for this expedition, consisted of Colonel Stanhope's regiment, and about three hundred men from Port Mahon, which force was commanded by Major-general Seissan, a native of Languedoc. On the 9th day of July, the confederate fleet, under Sir John Norris, and the Dutch admiral Somelsdyke, sailed from Barcelona. They arrived on the 13th before the town of Cette. Some ships were directed to batter the fort at the Mole-head, upon which the inhabitants retired to the church; and soon after both town and fort surrendered. The adjacent town of Adge surrendered the next day; but the want of a sufficient force to preserve and improve these advantages soon appeared. On the 17th, advice was received, that the Duke de Roquelaure was advancing with four hundred dragoons and four thousand militia, to recover the two towns. All the boats of the fleet were hereupon manned, and sent to oppose the enemy, whilst the land forces marched to meet them, which obliged the French general to return to Mezé. The Duke de Noailles, who was at Roussillon, when news of the descent arrived, immediately marched with two thousand dragoons, having each a foot soldier behind, to oppose the invaders. Adge was immediately surrendered, and Cette soon after, and the land-forces re-embarked on-board the fleet. The combined fleet quitted Cette on the 19th, and appeared before Marseilles and Toulon. Standing into the road of Hieres, a French fly-boat was discovered carrying fifty guns, under three forts, upon the island of Portcroix; some English and Dutch frigates were immediately dispatched, under the command of Captain Stepney, to attack both the ship and the fortresses. This service was performed with great spirit; and in a short time the ship was abandoned, as well as the lowest of the three forts. The boats then rowed eagerly

eagerly to board the veſſel; but, as ſoon as the men had entered, the French ſet fire to a train of powder, which had been laid for that purpoſe, which blew up thirty-five ſeamen, many of whom were killed, and the reſt wounded. Thus ended the operations of the fleet in the Mediterranean, for the year 1710.

While theſe undeciſive events happened abroad, the moſt violent party animoſities diſtracted the kingdom. Hitherto the Duke of Marlborough's influence, both over his ſovereign and the nation, had been unbounded. His ducheſs, who was the inſeparable attendant on the queen, and her boſom confidante, was ever watchful to ſerve the intereſts of the duke her huſband, the brilliancy of whoſe ſucceſſes had gained him the entire confidence of the Whigs: he had the treaſury at his command, by means of Godolphin the lord high treaſurer, whoſe ſon had married Lady Henrietta Churchill, the duke's eldeſt daughter; in the council he had an equal weight, by means of the Earl of Sunderland, who had married the Lady Anne, the duke's ſecond daughter, and who was ſecretary of ſtate. We have already taken notice of a rival to the Ducheſs of Marlborough, which ſtarted up in the perſon of Mrs. Maſham. The ducheſs had ſo long enjoyed the royal favour, that ſhe ſeemed to lay claim to it by a kind of preſcriptive right. The fate of nations is frequently decided by a trivial circumſtance: ſome gloves of a particular make, which the ducheſs refuſed the queen, and a baſon of water which ſhe with affected careleſſneſs let fall in her majeſty's preſence on Lady Maſham's gown, gave a turn to the affairs of Europe. Harley, who ſecretly fomented this miſunderſtanding, was ſenſible that it was not enough for the queen's mind to be alienated from her former attachments; the diſpoſition of the nation muſt likewiſe be changed. Among the writers of the Tory faction, were many men of the firſt rank in literary merit; theſe diſplayed the avarice of the Duke of Marlborough, and the ſelf-intereſted

conduct

conduct of the Dutch: they insisted, that, while England was exhausting her strength in foreign conquests, she was losing her liberty at home; that her ministers were not content with sharing the plunder of the state, but were resolved upon destroying its liberties also. The Tories every where spread the opinion that the church of England was in danger from the dissenters and men of levelling principles. These notions, which had been propagated ever since the beginning of the present reign, now gained ground amazingly, by means of the ecclesiastical demagogue Sacheverel. Soon after the trial of that incendiary was over, the Earl of Shrewsbury, who had distinguished himself on that occasion, in the debates against the ministry, was appointed chamberlain, in the room of the Earl of Kent, who had resigned that office upon his being raised to the dignity of a duke. This promotion was considered as a prelude to the fall of the ministry. The seals were next taken from the Earl of Sunderland. On the 8th of August the Earl of Godolphin was removed from the head of the treasury; and that high office was held by commission, Earl Powlet being constituted the chief at the board. At the same time Harley was made chancellor of the exchequer, and was in fact the chief spring of action to the new ministry. On the 21st of September Lord Somers was dismissed from the presidency of the council; and was succeeded by the Earl of Rochester, maternal uncle to the queen. Boyle, the other secretary of state, was succeeded by St. John, formerly secretary of war. The Duke of Devonshire quitted his place of lord-steward of the household, to make way for the Duke of Buckingham; the Earl of Orford, who had been but lately appointed first lord of the admiralty, resigned his employment. The great seal, upon the resignation of the Lord-chancellor Cowper, was given to Sir Simon Harcourt; and the lord lieutenancy of Ireland to the Duke of Ormond, upon the resignation of the Duke of Wharton; only the

Duke

Duke of Marlborough was retained; which he owed to his own real conſequence, and the great ſhare of popularity which he poſſeſſed, not to any regard which the queen continued to have for him. The admiralty commiſſioners appointed on the reſignation of the Earl of Orford, were Sir John Leake, Sir George Byng, Sir James Wiſhart, General Clarke, and John Aiſlabie, Eſq. The revolution itſelf, it was juſtly obſerved, had not made ſuch a total change among the ſervants of the crown.

On the 21ſt of September the parliament was diſſolved. The elections were carried on every where with unuſual violence and noiſe. The mob, encouraged by the new miniſtry and the Tories, became outrageous in the cities and boroughs. The general cry was raiſed ſo effectually againſt the Whigs, that they were excluded, wherever the votes depended either on the inclinations or the caprice of the populace. The new parliament aſſembled at Weſtminſter on the 25th of November, and on the 27th choſe for their ſpeaker a Mr. William Bromley, who was diſtinguiſhed for his attachment to the high-church party. The queen, in her ſpeech from the throne, recommended the carrying on the war in very ſtrong terms, and the commons, in their addreſs, aſſured her majeſty of their ſupport. Accordingly, on the 5th of December, they voted 40,000 men for the ſea-ſervice, for the year 1711, and 120,000l. for the ordinary of the navy; on the 10th of February they voted 5,130,539l. 5s. 6d. for the payment of the debts of the navy, and for ſervices performed by them on account of land forces to Michaelmas 1710, excluſive of the regiſter-office; and on the 20th of the ſaid month, they reſolved, that 103,003l. 11s. 4d. be granted for the uſe of ſuch proprietors, or inhabitants only, of Nevis, and St. Chriſtopher's, who were ſufferers by the French invaſion, and who have ſettled or ſhall re-ſettle in thoſe iſlands. So that the debts provided for, and the ſums

raiſed in the courſe of this ſeſſion, amounted to upwards of fourteen millions and a half. Over and above theſe immenſe grants, the commons voted to the queen an extrordinary ſupply of five hundred thouſand pounds for the re-eſtabliſhing the affairs of Spain and Portugal; four hundred and fifty thouſand pounds for giving currency to exchequer bills; near three hundred thouſand pounds for the extraordinary contingencies of the war; three hundred and fifty thouſand pounds for building new churches; and nine thouſand three hundred and ſeventy-five pounds, being a ſubſidy due by the late King William to the Elector of Hanover.

No ſooner were the new miniſtry formed, than the aſſociation had well nigh been broken, by the death of their leader Harley. The Abbé de la Bourlie, a Frenchman, who had aſſumed the title of Marquis de Guiſcard, and had fled his country for atrocious crimes, found means to gain the confidence of ſome men in power, and, as we have already ſhewn, p. 132, had ſet on foot an expedition to the coaſt of France; which, however, was laid aſide as impracticable, as ſoon as it was undertaken. This pretended marquis had the addreſs to obtain the command of a regiment, which having been cut off in the battle of Almanza, his pay as colonel ſoon after ceaſed. He thereupon applied to the miniſtry for a penſion; his chief patron had all along been Mr. Henry St. John, to whom he recommended himſelf by a ſympathetic profligacy. Mr. Harley exerted his influence to prevent this deſperate adventurer receiving any countenance from the crown. Bourlie, diſappointed in his expectations, reſolved to repair his ruined fortunes by betraying the ſecrets of the Britiſh cabinet to the court of France. His treaſonable correſpondence was ſoon diſcovered, and his letters tranſmitted to Mr. Harley. As the friendſhips between bad men are generally ſhort-lived, ſo that between St. John and Guiſcard had, by this time, been converted

verted into an implacable enmity. The traitor was apprehended upon a warrant from the secretary of state, and brought for examination before the council-board. Guiscard, conscious of his crime, and abandoned to despair by the glaring proof which was produced, requested to speak in private with Mr. St. John; but the secretary, apprehending danger from the wild gestures of the prisoner, refused to comply. Being thus disappointed of his intended revenge upon his former friend, he made up to Mr. Harley, and, having taken a penknife unobserved, struck it into his breast with such violence, that, the point coming upon the bone, the blade broke short off near the handle. The villain, not attending to this circumstance, redoubled his blows. St. John, starting from his chair at this assault, drew his sword, and wounded the assassin in several places; whilst the attendants, who were waiting without, hearing the uproar, hurried in, and securing Guiscard, conveyed him to Newgate, where he soon after died. The wound which Mr. Harley received proved of little consequence, whilst the danger he had so narrowly escaped led his sovereign to heap honours and emoluments upon him with an unsparing hand: he was soon after created a peer of Great-Britain, by the title of Earl of Oxford and Mortimer, and appointed lord high-treasurer. Whilst the court of Versailles saw with pleasure these revolutions in the executive part of government take place in Great Britain, another event happened which tended greatly to accelerate that peace which alone could save France from the total ruin which threatened her. On the 6th of April 1711, the Emperor Joseph died at Vienna of the small pox, in the thirty-third year of his age. By his will he bequeathed all the dominions of the house of Austria to his brother Charles king of Spain, who was soon after elected emperor. Such an accession of power to one prince, entirely changed the political system of Europe. The war undertaken by

the grand alliance, for preſerving the balance of Europe, had now no longer that motive for its continuance. The emperor's death therefore furniſhed the Tories in England with a freſh argument for the reeſtabliſhment of peace. The queen, in the notification which ſhe made to her parliament of the emperor's death, concluded with ſaying, that ſhe hoped ſoon to be in a condition to put a happy end to the war by a laſting and honourable peace. But, though the queen ſecretly endeavoured to bring this about, her miniſters proceeded with great circumſpection; they were ſenſible that they could not as yet publicly diſengage their miſtreſs from her alliances; hoſtilities were therefore ſtill carried on in 1711.

The Duke of Marlborough arrived at the Hague on the 4th of March; he remained there a conſiderable time, and held many conferences with the foreign miniſters and deputies of the States. He ſent orders for conſiderable detachments to be made from all the garriſons in the neighbourhood of the Scarpe, in order to their being cantoned along that river, for preventing any attempts of the French.

On the 25th of April, Marſhal Villars marched with the troops in the neighbourhood of Arras, with an intent to have forced the poſts poſſeſſed by the allies on the Deule and Scarpe; but, finding them thoroughly ſecured againſt any ſuch attempts, he was conſtrained to retire within the lines, and to encamp between Bouchain and Arras, having before him the Senſet and the marſhes formed by the Scarpe. The true deſign of Villars, in caſe the detachment from the allies had not prevented him, was to have made the ſiege of Douay, which would have given ſpirit to the French, and reſtored ſome degree of credit to their arms.

The Duke of Marlborough no ſooner received advice of theſe proceedings than he ſet out for the army, which aſſembled on the 30th of April, between Liſle

Douay.

Douay. His grace immediately paſſed the Scarpe, and encamped over againſt the French army. Let us here take a view of the force of both camps, that we may have the better idea of the ſubſequent tranſactions. The Duke of Marlborough's army formed two lines: the general officers commanding the firſt, were his grace, the Count de Tilly, the hereditary Prince of Heſſe, M. Dopf, the Prince of Orange, M. Buleau, and General Lumley, eighteen lieutenant and thirty-ſeven major generals, forty-four battalions, and eighty-two ſquadrons. The ſecond line was commanded by the following generals, viz. the Earl of Albemarle, M. Fagel, and the Prince of Anhalt, nine lieutenant and twenty-eight major generals, fifty battalions, and ſixty-three ſquadrons; the whole amounting to ninety-four battalions and a hundred and forty-five ſquadrons. Prince Eugene's army was likewiſe formed in two lines; the firſt commanded by his highneſs, the Duke of Wirtemberg, and Count de Velen, under whom there were five lieutenant and twelve major generals, twenty-two battalions and fifty-nine ſquadrons. The ſecond line was commanded by general Count de Feltz, and under him by four lieutenant and ſix major generals, conſiſting of twenty-four battalions and fifty ſquadrons, in all forty-ſeven battalions and a hundred and eleven ſquadrons, and the whole confederate army of a hundred and forty-one battalions and two hundred and fifty-ſix ſquadrons. The army of France, commanded by Marſhals Villars and Monteſquieu, and under them by a great number of lieutenant generals and marſhals de camp, conſiſted in the whole of 156 battalions and 227 ſquadrons. The allies had a train of a hundred and eleven cannon, beſides mortars and howitzers: that of the French did not amount to above ninety pieces. Prince Eugene did not arrive at the Hague till the 9th of May, being detained in Germany by the death of the emperor. His highneſs arrived in the army on the 23d of May, the

the next day there was a council of war held, in which it was agreed to remain as long as poſſible in their preſent camp, it being apprehended that through the ſcarcity of forage the French could not continue long in theirs. His highneſs then returned to the Hague, in order to concert farther meaſures for the ſecurity of the Auſtrian houſe, intending afterwards to repair himſelf to the Rhine.

In the mean time the French took all imaginable precautions for diſtreſſing the confederate armies, by attempting their convoys. It happened that forty-five bilanders loaded with hay, forage of all ſorts, meal, &c. were ſent up the Scarpe from Tournay, under an eſcort of two battalions, commanded by Brigadier Chambrier. When they were arrived about three in the afternoon, at the caſtle of Tiens, between Mortagne and St. Amand, M. de Permangle, who commanded in Condé, poſted himſelf in ambuſcade, with between fourteen and fifteen hundred men, being determined to attack the convoy. About four o'clock the convoy and its eſcort drew near, but M. de Permangle was ſurprized to find it guarded by two regiments; his firſt intelligence having ſpoken of no more than ſix hundred fuſileers. However he ſtill reſolved to attack the convoy, which he did while the men were in ſome confuſion, as little expecting an enemy ſo near. Brigadier Chambrier behaved with great bravery, but was at laſt wounded and taken priſoner; this ſo far diſpirited his troops, that they were ſoon after entirely broken. Twelve of the bilanders found means, during the action, to eſcape, and moſt of the horſes and men belonging to theſe veſſels, being on the contrary ſide of the river, got ſafe to Mortagne; the reſt fell into the hands of M. Permangle, who burnt them with their contents, without ſtaying to ſee what they were. The allies loſt here five hundred men, and the French near two hundred.

The poſt of Arleux being of great conſequence to the

the allies, it was determined to force the French from thence, coſt what it would. M. de Hompeſch, governor of Douay, was charged with this enterprize, or rather charged himſelf with it, becauſe the French garriſon at that place found means to ſtop the water of the Scarpe, ſo that the mills of Douay could not grind. To facilitate this enterprize, the Duke of Marlborough ſent a detachment from the army, ſupported by the whole piquet, under the command of the Prince of Heſſe. The affair ſucceeded as well as could be wiſhed, the Caſtle of Chanterin was forced, a redoubt before the mills of Arleux taken by ſtorm, and the ſoldiers in all the poſts made priſoners of war. This done, M. de Roques was ſent thither with ſix hundred men to fortify the place, without loſs of time; and to cover theſe Count Hompeſch marched with ten battalions and twelve ſquadrons, and encamped at Fieren. Villars had no ſooner intelligence of this, than he reſolved to ſend ſome of the braveſt officers in his army to pay M. Hompeſch a viſit; a thing difficult to be done, ſince his army was under the eye of that of the confederates, ſo that he could not make the leaſt detachment without its being obſerved. In the night between the 9th and 10th, he ſent away ſome pontoons, which he directed to be concealed under the trees which grew along the ſide of the Schelde; he then ordered twenty-four ſquadrons of the houſhold troops, horſe and huſſars, to be ready under the command of the Count de Caſſion, lieutenant-general, who had with him M. de Coigny, lieutenant general and colonel general of dragoons, and ſeveral other perſons of diſtinction. The horſes were ſent firſt, at leaſt the greateſt part of them, the men followed on foot; ſuch as went with their horſes led them, with halters about their necks, as if going to graſs. On the 10th in the morning the troops were exerciſed in the higheſt places in the neighbourhood of the camp, and about ten o'clock orders were given for ſtopping the peaſants at the

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ſeveral poſts of the Scarpe, Schelde, and Senſet, under pretence that intelligence was given of ſome ſpies, but in truth, that they might not diſcover the march of the troops. Theſe precautions anſwered exactly: the Count of Gaſſion arrived under Bouchain, without being diſcovered; he left there eight ſquadrons, and put himſelf at the head of the reſt, with the dragoons of Count Coigny, in order to attack the allies.

Theſe two generals divided their forces into four lines one behind another; the firſt conſiſted of three hundred dragoons and three hundred huſſars, commanded by the Baron of Raſki their colonel; the reſt of dragoons and horſe. The firſt line went a little round about; the ſecond fell upon the guards at the ſtandards, and cut them to pieces. The huſſars and dragoons diſmounted, and were by this time got over all the camp, ſhooting, ſtabbing, and knocking on the head, ſuch as were ſcarcely awake, and not at all upon their guard. Some Engliſh battalions ran in their ſhirts to the arm-tents, and, finding there the greateſt part of their ſmall arms, fired briſkly upon the French, and did a great deal of miſchief. M. de Coigny, to encreaſe the confuſion every body was in, looſened all the horſe at the picquets, and let them all run about the camp, while his dragoons and horſe were employed in murdering, plundering, and ſetting fire to the tents. General Hompeſch, with ſome battalions, retired to to Douay, from whence firing three cannon to give notice of their misfortune, he then advanced to cover his flying troops. The Duke of Marlborough no ſooner heard the ſignal from Douay than he detached his whole picquet, but they came too late. Meſſieurs de Gaſſion and de Coigny retired without being purſued; and, in caſe they had, M. Villars in the morning ſent Count Albergotti with two thouſand grenadiers to ſupport them; and Count Broglio, with a great body of horſe, approached the right wing of the allies in ſuch a manner that it was not thought ſafe to ſend

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any detachments from thence. When this unlucky buſineſs came to be looked into, it was found that nine hundred men were killed, eighteen hundred deſperately wounded, and ſix or ſeven hundred horſe carried away, with the general's coach, and four or five pair of colours and kettle-drums. This accident did not hinder the Duke of Marlborough from fortifying Arleux, and putting into it a garriſon of ſix hundred men, under the command of Colonel Savory; after which he decamped from the neighbourhood of Lens.

Villars upon this made a motion with his army, and encamped his right at Etron near Arras, and his left at Heſdin. From whence he detached Count d'Eſtaing, with twenty-five battalions and twenty-ſix ſquadrons, for the Sambre, as he pretended, but quickly inveſted the poſt of Arleux, where Marſhal Monteſquieu arrived ſoon after in perſon, with four pieces of heavy cannon. They cannonaded the place till eleven o'clock, and then, having made the neceſſary diſpoſitions of the troops, they attacked it ſword in hand, and carried it after a vigorous reſiſtance, in which the French, according to their own account, loſt eighty men and ſeveral officers; M. de Liſle was dangerouſly wounded. Monteſquieu left eight hundred men in Arleux, and encamped ſix battalions in its neighbourhood, in order to ſupport them; but, finding afterwards that theſe troops would be too much expoſed, directions were given for razing the fortifications, and abandoning that poſt, where they had taken eight pieces of cannon and two mortars.

The Duke of Marlborough, having weighed the ſmall progreſs that had been hitherto made, reſolved to penetrate the French lines, and, if poſſible, without fighting. Theſe lines began at Bouchain, on the Schelde, and were continued along the Senſet and the Scarpe to Arras, from thence along the Upper Scarpe to the Canche, the opening to theſe rivers being entrenched and fortified by a large ditch, defended with

redoubts and other works. His grace had no ſooner determined to make this attempt, but he reſolved with himſelf to take ſuch meaſures as might hinder friends and enemies from apprehending that he had any deſign of that ſort. Lieutenant-general Cadogan and Count Hompeſch had orders to draw together a body of troops from the neighbouring garriſons, and to attempt the paſſage of the Senſet by Arleux. To facilitate this extraordinary motion, Brigadier Sutton was ſent beforehand with the artillery and pontoons, to throw bridges over the Scarpe at Vitry, and over the canal of Arleux, and bread was baked at Liſle for ſix days. His grace's precautions ſucceeded ſo well, that the confederate generals themſelves had not the leaſt ſuſpicion, but that the enemy's lines would be attacked the next morning; for which purpoſe a prodigious number of faſcines were prepared, but his grace, in pity to the ſoldiers, ordered that they ſhould not be above four feet long, to prevent their fatiguing them too much in their march. The duke likewiſe, with ſeveral general officers, and two thouſand horſe, advanced to obſerve the enemy's lines, which ſeemed to put the matter paſt diſpute, ſo that Marſhal Villars recalled his detachments, and put every thing in order for making an obſtinate defence. At ſix in the evening, on the 4th of Auguſt, the troops received the long-expected orders to march, but they were not to ſtrike their tents till it was quite dark, and then they neither knew the hour when they were to move, nor the road they were to take; they were only told that the march was to be made in four columns, and that each column would find an officer at its head, who would put them in the road. About nine they began to move, to their great ſurprize, to the left, without beat of drum, and with as little noiſe as poſſible; the duke himſelf, at the head of the cavalry of the left wing, led the van, and advanced with ſuch prodigious expedition, that he paſſed the Scarpe at Vitry by five in the morning. Count Hom-

peſch, according to his grace's project, having ſeized the paſſes of the Senſet without oppoſition. By eight in the morning his grace, with fifty ſquadrons, arrived at Arleux, where the heads of the columns joined him about ten, having marched ten hours without halting. ---Marſhal Villars received advice of his grace's march about eleven at night, but it was two in the morning before he could ſuffer himſelf to be ſatisfied that it was ſo. He then decamped, and, having a ſhorter way to march within the lines than the duke had without them, by eleven o'clock he appeared in ſight of the Duke of Marlborough, who with twenty ſquadrons was juſt paſſed the defile of Marquion. The French ſay, that Villars might have attacked the confederate army with great advantage, but he did not, and for this our writers tell us he was lampooned in his own army, and decried in the French court. The French affirm, that the marſhal had orders not to fight on any occaſion whatſoever; of which, it may be, the duke had intelligence; however it was, his grace received the higheſt applauſe for his conduct in this affair. It is beyond diſpute that he got within thoſe lines which M. de Villars is ſaid to have ſtiled the *ne plus ultra* of the allies, and that without fighting, by engaging the enemy to make ſuch motions as left the paſſage of the Senſet unguarded. He over-reached the Marſhal Villars, by obliging him to withdraw his detachments, and therefore this may well be looked upon as one of the moſt glorious actions of the war.

The Duke of Marlborough, after having ſucceeded ſo happily in one extraordinary ſtep, immediately reſolved upon another, which was the beſieging Bouchain. The deputies of the States oppoſed it, and ſo did many general officers, becauſe they looked upon it as impracticable to reduce a place ſo ſtrong by ſituation, fortifications, and the neighbourhood of two French camps; but the duke conſidered, that, unleſs he made himſelf maſter of ſome ſtrong place within

the lines, his entering them would be of little conſequence, and that, if Bouchain could be ſubdued this campaign, the next would infallibly open a road into France; he therefore reſolved to cauſe it to be inveſted. Purſuant to this reſolution, the army began to paſs the Schelde at Eſtrun, over the bridges which M. Villars had cauſed to be thrown acroſs that river. The next morning the confederate army encamped betwixt Cambray and Bouchain, the Duke of Marlborough having his head quarters at Aveſne le Sec, and Count Tilly his at Harſpre, upon the river Selle. Bridges were laid the ſame day below Bouchain, in order to open a communication with Douay, and that the troops might paſs with eaſe in order to inveſt that place, which was done on the tenth by thirty battalions and twelve ſquadrons, commanded by General Fagel, who had under him Lieutenant-generals Collier and North and Grey, four major-generals, and four brigadiers. What difficulties were to be ſtruggled with in this ſiege, the reader will perceive from the following account of M. Rouſſet.

Bouchain is but a little town, or rather fortreſs, ſituate at the confluence of the Senſet and the Selle, or Raſelle, into the Schelde. It is about nine miles north of Cambray, ten ſouth weſt of Valenciennes, and twenty-eight almoſt weſt of Mons. The Senſet ſeparates the upper town from the lower, forces an inundation between that and the Selle, and fills the ditches which ſurround the works between the upper and the lower town. The Selle ſeparates the lower town into two parts; and between the lower town and the Schelde there was a horn-work, which covered two ſeparate baſtions, and which was cut in two by a ditch, ſupplied by the Schelde. Beſides theſe difficulties ariſing from the ſituation of the place, there were two other very eſſential ones. The firſt a formidable intrenchment, fenced with redoubts, and fifty pieces of cannon, which thirty battalions, commanded by the brave and

and vigilant M. Albergotti, had raiſed between Wavrechin and Pont-à-Waue on the Senſet; which being but a quarter of a league from the town, and parallel to the circumvallation of the confederates, the batteries of that intrenchment might play upon the circumvallation without interruption, there being nothing but an inundation between them. Secondly, the communication which the enemy kept open with the town, by means of a paſſage through a moraſs, which it was deemed impracticable to cut off. To which we may add that there were eight battalions and ſix hundred Swiſs ſoldiers in the town; that the place was furniſhed with all requiſites for a vigorous defence; that M. de Ravignan had thrown himſelf into the town to command the troops, and taken five hundred grenadiers with him, and that M. de Selve, who defended St. Venant, was in the town before; ſo that the garriſon was animated by the neighbourhood of the whole French army.

A ſhort time after the duke had diſcovered his intentions to beſiege Bouchain, the French ſent a detachment over the Senſet; the duke apprehended that it was intended to intercept his bread waggons and artillery, and for that reaſon advanced with the cavalry of his left wing to the hill of Vignovet, where they remained till the convoy arrived in the camp, but then, perceiving that the French did not ſtir, he cauſed the place to be more narrowly viewed, and found that they had taken poſt there, and intrenched themſelves, which was the camp at Waverchin mentioned above. The duke then ordered General Dopf to diſlodge them, but this too was found impracticable; it then appeared that the town could not be inveſted at all, according to the ſcheme firſt formed, but that the French would ſtill preſerve a communication with it, and thoſe who were averſe to the ſiege now valued themſelves upon their penetration; but the duke, having conſidered it a little, ſhewed himſelf as great an engineer as he was a general;

a general; for, instead of drawing the lines of circumvallation from the Lower Schelde to the Senset, he ordered them to be begun between the intrenchments and the town, which did the business at once, and saved a great deal of needless labour. He had before secured his own camp by a line from Ivoy to Haspre; and, every thing being executed by the vigilance of Colonel Armstrong with as much care as they were contrived with skill by the duke, the enemy saw that siege in a fair way which they flattered themselves would be impracticable. Marshal Villars was however indefatigable; he was continually viewing the ground, and contriving with himself new means of disturbing the army which carried on the siege, and that which covered it; but his vigilance had like to have cost him dear, for having put himself at the head of some squadrons of hussars and dragoons, in order to view the works, he found himself suddenly surrounded by a detachment of horse, commanded by Lieutenant-general Cadogan; the French troops fought with great bravery, being encouraged by the presence of many officers of distinction, as well as the marshal himself; at last, a road being opened back to the camp, Villars with part of the detachment escaped, and the rest, with six or seven officers of rank, were either killed or taken prisoners. The marshal attempted, by throwing up several redoubts, to open a new communication between Waverchin and the town; but the Duke of Marlborough, reinforcing his troops on that side to a hundred battalions, pushed the French from their forts, and included those redoubts within his lines of circumvallation. Villars made still another attempt: there was a narrow way through the morass called the Cow-Path; he caused a parapet to be raised from tree to tree, and by this means actually opened a communication with Bouchain in sight of the duke. His grace ordered a post covered with this parapet to be attacked; the grenadiers appointed for that purpose threw themselves

themſelves into the moraſs and into the rivers, where many were up to the neck, and moſt to the waiſt and ſhoulders; they held their arms over their heads, received four fires from the French, and then clambered over the parapet: an enſign of Ingoldſby's regiment, who was very ſhort, and could not ſwim, rather than not have a ſhare in this enterprize, jumped upon a grenadier's ſhoulders, and ſat there till the man waded to the enemy's works, upon which the enſign was one of the firſt that jumped. The French, perceiving that neither fire nor water could ſtop the duke, abandoned their poſt, and retired as faſt as they could, leaving behind them ſuch a quantity of faſcines as enabled the allies to cover themſelves from the fire of the town, and from that of the intrenchment at Waverkin, which otherwiſe they could never have done. M. de Ravignan made ſeveral ſallies in order to aſſiſt the attempts made in his favour, but to very little purpoſe; for the Duke of Marlborough ſuſtained all his guards ſo ſeaſonably, and kept every thing ſo much under his own eye, that in ten days time it appeared Bouchain had nothing to truſt to but its own ſtrength: and that M. Villars and Count Albergotti could only be ſpectators of its fall.

A little time after this, Lieutenant-general Albergotti, with a body of ten thouſand men, made an attempt upon Douay, which miſcarried through the vigilance of General Hompeſch, who, on the French detachment's not anſwering his centinel, fired upon them from the town, and obliged them to retreat in ſuch confuſion that they left their boats behind them. In the mean time the ſiege of Bouchain was carried on ſo vigorouſly that two breaches were made in the upper town; and M. de Ravignan ſeeing no hopes of ſuccour, and being in ſome danger of having his garriſon mutiny, beat the chamade. Hoſtages were exchanged, and articles of capitulation were ſent to the Duke of Marlborough; he refuſed to hear them read, and gave

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them for anſwer, that, having held out as long as they were able, he knew no terms they were to expect, other than ſurrendering as priſoners of war; which terms M. Ravignan having refuſed, hoſtilities were renewed, and ſuch a prodigious fire was made from all the batteries, that the ſame day they hung out white flags again at all the attacks. M. de Ravignan then ſent to acquaint his grace, that the reaſon why they could not accept his terms was, becauſe they knew the miſerable condition their countrymen were in who were already priſoners in Holland; they therefore begged he would permit them to return to France, there to continue without acting, till a like number of the troops of the allies ſhould be ſet at liberty; but this too was refuſed, and the fire renewed again with ſtill greater fury, ſo that in the end M. de Ravignan was conſtrained to accept the terms originally offered. When they came to march out, it appeared that M. Ravignan had reaſon to ſurrender when he did, for his garriſon, which conſiſted at firſt of ſix thouſand men, was reduced to leſs than half the number. The private men marched out and were ſent priſoners to Holland, to the number of two thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventeen; but the officers were permitted to remain in Bouchain till farther orders. The ſiege laſted from the 10th of Auguſt to the 13th of September.

While the works and breaches of Bouchain were repairing, the Duke of Marlborough ſent the Earl of Albemarle to the Hague to endeavour to bring their high mightineſſes to conſent to a project which their field deputies had oppoſed, viz. the forming the ſiege of Queſnoy; becauſe, that town being taken, all the new conqueſts would have been covered, and the troops might in the beginning of the next campaign have penetrated into the heart of the enemy's country. But the States were not to be prevailed on. They well knew that the French had deſtroyed all the forage in that part of the country; that the ſeaſon was ſo far advanced, that

that the troops must have undergone greater hardships than they had endured the year before at the siege of Aire; besides, as the negociations for a peace were then beginning, the States did not think it advisable to enter upon any new operations; they consented, however, that their troops should be quartered in the frontier towns, as well to hinder the enemy from throwing up new lines, as that their army might assemble very early next spring. In consequence of this resolution, the duke remained idle for about three weeks, and then both armies separated and went into winter quarters. The duke quitted that of the allies the 27th of October; he was entertained the same day at Tournay by the Earl of Albemarle: he came the 3d of November to Antwerp, where he was received under a triple discharge of the artillery, supped with the Cardinal de Bouillon, and dined the next day with the Marquis de Terracena, at a great feast he gave on the name-day of the new-elected emperor. On the 5th his grace set out for the Hague, where, having conferred several times with the States, he proceeded for the Briel the 23d of the same month, and arrived four days after safe in England. This was the last campaign of the Duke of Marlborough, and the taking of Bouchain was the last military atchievement of this great general. By a continuance of conduct and success almost unparalleled, he had gained to the allies a prodious tract of country. From the beginning of the war, which had now continued nine years, he had perpetually advanced, and never retreated before his enemies, nor lost an advantage he had obtained over them. He most frequently gained the enemy's posts without fighting; but, where he was obliged to attack, no fortifications were able to resist him. He had never besieged a city which he did not take, nor engaged in a battle in which he did not come off victorious. Thus the allies had reduced under their command Spanish Guelderland, Limbourg, Brabant, Flanders, and Hainault;

they were masters of the Scarpe, the capture of Bouchain had opened for them a way into the heart of France, and another campaign might have made them masters of Paris; but, on the duke's return from this campaign, he was accused of having taken a bribe of 6000l. a-year from a Jew who had contracted to supply the army with bread; and the queen thought proper to dismiss him from all his employments. Of this more hereafter.---We must finish the operations of the present campaign abroad, before we proceed to domestic matters.

The Duke of Berwick, without any effort of consequence, defended Dauphiny and Provence against the allies commanded by General Thaun.

We now pass to the affairs of Spain. The loss of Gironne (see p. 322) was exceedingly prejudicial to the affairs of the allies, as well on account of the large territory which it commanded, as by reason of the cannon and ammunition found therein; of the former, besides a great number of iron, there were fifty fine ones of brass, and 70,000lb. weight of powder. The Spanish army advanced also all the month of February in such a manner, that by the latter end thereof their left wing was very near the right of the army of M. de Noailles, whereby two thirds of the principality of Catalonia was brought under the subjection of King Philip. Marshal Staremberg withdrew his garrison from Balaguer, and caused the new fortifications which had been erected there to be blown up. King Philip was all this while at Sarragossa with the Duke de Vendome. For the opening of the campaign there were drawn together seventy-two battalions and eighty-five squadrons: of these seventeen battalions and fifteen squadrons were destined for garrisons, and to escort convoys; the rest were ordered to hold themselves in readiness to take the field.

On the other side, the Marshal de Staremberg left nothing unessayed to put the small remains of an army under

under his command in such a condition as might enable him to preserve at least a country he was still in possession of, against a superior army. As to the recruits he had been promised, they came very slowly, and the English fleet of transports were detained a long time by contrary winds, suffered much in their passage, and arrived very late. The Catalans began to grow very uneasy; however, the marshal took the field in tolerable time, and disposed of the troops so happily, that, notwithstanding all the vigilance of M. de Vendome, the Duke de Noailles, and the generals who commanded under them, nothing of great importance could be done. The Marquis d'Arpajou was dispatched in August with a corps of four thousand men to besiege Venasque. Colonel Taff was in a valley in the neighbourhood, with above fifteen hundred men, regular troops and miquelets, and it was not doubted but he would give the marquis all the trouble in his power; but on the approach of the Spanish troops the Catalans would not be persuaded to stay, and Colonel Taff, not knowing what to do without them, was obliged to retire; by this means the town of Venasque was taken without opposition, and the garrison constrained to retire into the castle, where they pretended to make a vigorous defence. The Marquis d'Arpajou caused as soon as possible several batteries to be erected, and began to fire, but his engineers soon told him that it would be to little purpose, the garrison having made an outwork before their walls composed of beams and sacks of wool; M. Mathamort, who commanded the artillery, had instantly recourse to red-hot bullets, which had their effect, for the garrison, being afraid of being burned alive by the beams taking fire, were obliged to surrender at discretion. After this he proceeded directly to besiege Castle Leon, a very strong place by its situation, and the stronger because it was impossible to bring artillery near it: however the marquis took it in a short time through want of water. In the be-

ginning of the month of September the army under the command of M. de Vendome, and that under Marſhal de Staremberg, approached ſo near that they cannonaded each other, whereby a good deal of miſchief was done on both ſides. Afterwards ſeveral meſſages paſſed between thoſe generals; and it is ſaid they would have had an interview if it had not been diſapproved by the empreſs. In the month of October the Duke de Vendome being in an ill ſtate of health, occaſioned chiefly by his eating ſea fiſh, of which he received frequently preſents from the Marſhal Staremberg, thought it neceſſary to drink the waters of Balarne, and to that end ſued to deſire a paſſport from Monſ. de Staremberg, for his purveyor Lambert, which was immediately granted him, and he paſſed the army of the allies to take the route of Languedoc. The marſhal alſo charged him with ſome commiſſions for wine and other things which he wanted. We ſhould not have mentioned this, but for a curious circumſtance which occurred during Lambert's ſhort ſtay in Staremberg's army, who, in the midſt of his civilities, gave ſtrict directions that the Frenchmen ſhould not be permitted to converſe either with officer or ſoldier, excepting only General Hamilton, to whoſe care he was committed. However, as they were paſſing through the camp, he heard ſome officers talking in a tent; one of them particularly ſaid, that Marſhal Staremberg would derive great honour from General Wezel's expedition if it ſucceeded; for, continued he, he is now encamped at Terragona, with five thouſand men, and his intention is to ſurprize Tortoſa, as I gueſs from the embarkation of ſcaling ladders, which was made this morning. Lambert, when he was about to leave the camp, deſired permiſſion from General Hamilton to ſend back a note by the trumpet who came with him, to which the general aſſented, and called for pen, ink, and paper; Lambert immediately wrote theſe words: "Pleaſe to pay a peaſant fif-

teen piſtoles for brandy, which I have had from him, and for which he will deliver you my note." The general read the billet, and ordered the trumpet to be called: this happening under Marſhal Staremberg's window, he looked out, and, ſeeing the note in Lambert's hand, deſired to read it, which, when he had done, he ſaid, "Well, well, give it him;" which Lambert accordingly did, ſqueezing the trumpet at the ſame time hard by the hand, who, eaſily comprehending that there was ſomewhat the matter, pretended to embrace Mr. Lambert affectionately before his departure, and in that embrace Lambert whiſpered him, "General Wezel is at Terragona with five thouſand men; he intends to ſurprize Tortoſa; the ſcaling ladders are embarked. Tell this to the Duke de Vendome only." The trumpet made haſte back to the camp, and reported what Lambert had told him; orders were thereupon ſent to Tortoſa to be extremely careful, and yet, with all this precaution, General Wezel actually ſurprized the outworks, and very narrowly miſſed carrying the place. The action was very warm and bloody, between four and five hundred men being left dead on the ſpot, and ſeveral on both ſides taken priſoners. The miſcarrying of this deſign mortified General Staremberg exceedingly; however he was in ſome meaſure conſoled by the miſcarrying a little after of a deſign formed by the Duke of Vendome, of as great importance.

After the taking of Venaſque and Caſtle Leon, the Count de Muret was diſpatched with three thouſand men to beſiege Cardona: this was a ſtrong place, and of very great conſequence, ſeated between two mountains, with a caſtle built on a rock. It had in it a ſtrong garriſon of very good troops, but after its being inveſted there was no attempt made to relieve it, ſo that it was entirely left to the conduct of the commanders and the valour of the ſoldiers. On the 14th of November the Count de Muret arrived before the place;

place; on the 17th he caused the retrenchment before the town to be attacked by fourteen hundred men. The garrison made an obstinate defence, but at last the place was taken sword in hand, after a great deal of bloodshed. The castle yet remained, which the Count de Muret was forced to attack in all the forms, but till the 10th of December was able to make very little progress therein. On the 11th he caused a mine to be played with indifferent success, and afterwards bombarded the castle with somewhat better fortune; but the Count de Eck, who commanded therein, having found means to give advice to Marshal Staremberg that the garrison beginning to want ammunition and provisions could not hold out long, that general, in the night between the 30th and the 31st, detached four thousand men, who were obliged to march all night: they surprized a Spanish guard on the river, passed it and attacked the French troops in their retrenchments with great bravery, the latter defending themselves with much obstinacy for some time, but at last they were obliged to abandon their lines, whereby the castle was relieved. The Count de Muret the next day retired, being constrained to burn his baggage and to leave behind twelve pieces of cannon, two mortars, and all his sick and wounded. This unlucky accident chagrined the Duke de Vendome exceedingly; for, if he had succeeded in the scheme he had formed, M. Staremberg must have immediately encamped under the cannon of Barcelona.

In the latter end of December the armies went into winter quarters, the Duke de Vendome decamping first in full day-light, and in sight of Marshal Staremberg. He held a council of war the day before, in which all the general officers were of opinion that the army ought to decamp by night: when they had declared their sentiments, the Duke de Vendome rose up: "It is very well, gentlemen," said he; "you may be in the right, but this is not my way; retreats in the night confuse

confuſe and diſpirit an army: I will take the command of the rear; there is a river and a fine plain behind us; if Marſhal Staremberg comes, he ſhall not loſe his labour; but while I command the Spaniards they ſhall not wander in the dark in their own country." The next day, Marſhal Staremberg ſending ſome ſquadrons of dragoons to obſerve the rear of the Duke de Vendome's army, his highneſs on their approach halted, and, preſenting his army in battalia, obliged them to retire, after which he marched off without further diſturbance. Marſhal Staremberg diſtributed his troops alſo throughout Catalonia, and the campaign ended pretty early.

The Duke de Vendome returned with King Philip to Madrid, where he was received with prodigious applauſe; and the king, with the conſent of all the grandees, gave him the title and precedence as firſt prince of the blood; and, as ſoon as the effects of the galleons came into his majeſty's power, he preſented the duke with 120,000 pieces of eight for the expences of the campaign. The duke ſmiled when the king offered it him, and accepted it with the following compliment: "Sire, this is a very magnificent teſtimony of your kind acceptance of my ſervices, and as ſuch I receive it; but I hope your majeſty will allow me to follow your example, and to be grateful in my turn; let me beſeech you therefore to cauſe this money to be diſtributed among your Spaniſh troops, as a ſmall recompence of that valour, whereby in twenty-four hours they fixed your majeſty's title to fourteen kingdoms."

The combined fleet of the maritime powers was commanded by Sir John Leake. Its operations were confined to the defence of the Britiſh coaſt, and clearing the channel of the French cruiſers. Sir Thomas Hardy, rear-admiral of the blue, was ſent with a ſtrong ſquadron of ten men of war to block up the port of Dunkirk; but, notwithſtanding the vigilance uſed to prevent any veſſels getting out to ſea from

that

that harbour, ſome ſhips found means to get out, and others entered ſafely. The rear-admiral was ſoon after called off from this ſtation to convoy the Ruſſian fleet as far northward as the Orkneys, in their way to Archangel.

On the 27th of June, an Engliſh man of war, called the Advice, commanded by Kenneth lord Duffus, was attacked in Yarmouth-roads by ſeveral French privateers. His lordſhip engaged them with great bravery, and did not give up his ſhip, which was a fourth rate of forty-ſix guns, till all his ſails were torn to pieces, the ſhrouds cut away, two thirds of his men killed and wounded, and he himſelf had received five balls in his body. The eight privateers that took him brought the ſhip with great triumph into Dunkirk, where they moſt inhumanly ſtripped both officers and private men even of their wearing apparel; the inhabitants of Dunkirk, however, with great kindneſs, furniſhed them with neceſſaries, and relieved them from the diſtreſs into which the brutality of their plunderers had thrown them.

Notwithſtanding the number of ſhips that were employed in the channel ſervice, yet four French men of war, commanded by M. Saus, having ſlipped out of Dunkirk, fell in with the Virginia fleet, conſiſting of twenty-two ſail; two of which were forced aſhore, four eſcaped, and the reſt were taken; and with this booty they got ſafe back to port, notwithſtanding a very cloſe purſuit.

The ſervice in the Mediterranean was as barren of events as that nearer home. The affairs of Charles III. now wore a very unfavourable aſpect, from the heavy misfortunes that had befallen his arms towards the cloſe of the laſt campaign. Sir John Norris, by his majeſty's direction, ſailed with the fleet to the Italian coaſt, to tranſport recruits from thence to Barcelona. On the 22d of March, an engagement happened between the Severn, Lion, and Lyme, and four French

French men of war, near Vado-bay, in the gulph of Genoa, which after being maintained for two hours the Frenchman ſheered off. The Lion, commanded by Captain Galfredus Walpole, was the only ſhip in a condition to purſue the flying enemy, and that officer had his right arm ſhot away in the action, forty of his men had been killed or wounded, and his ſhip much torn. The Exeter, Captain Raymond, at that time coming up, joined in the chaſe, and overtook one of the French ſhips, which after an obſtinate engagement ſtruck; ſhe proved to be the Pembroke, which the French a year before had taken: Captain Raymond's ſhip, however, was ſo much diſabled, that he could not ſecure his prize; he was therefore under the mortifying neceſſity of parting with her, ſo that the whole ſquadron eſcaped.

In the ſpring of the year 1711, Sir John Norris was ſucceeded in the command of the Mediterranean fleet by Sir John Jennings, and the Duke of Argyle was ſent out to command the Britiſh troops in Spain. The fleet cruiſed for ſome time off the harbour of Toulon, in order to intercept the ſupplies which the French expected from Languedoc, as well as their corn-fleet from the Levant. From this ſervice he was called off by the King of Spain, who, when he was elected emperor, embarked on-board the admiral's ſhip at Barcelona, and was landed at Genoa. Two rich prizes were ſoon after taken on their paſſage from the Levant to Marſeilles, and a French fifty-gun ſhip called the Touloufe, which, together with the Trident, a ſhip of equal force, maintained a deſperate fight with the Hampton-court and Sterling-caſtle; of which the former bore the heavieſt part, and ſuffered the moſt: the Trident eſcaped by plying her oars. About the ſame time we loſt the Reſolution, a ſeventy-gun ſhip, in a violent ſtorm, near Leghorn, where ſhe was driven aſhore, but the officers and crew ſaved themſelves. In the ſame tempeſt a ſettee was loſt, freighted with a

valuable cargo, valued at four thouſand crowns, from Corſica.

In the Weſt-Indies, Commodore Lyttleton, arriving in the latter end of the year 1710 with a ſtrong ſquadron, took on him the command in chief. The grand object was, the taking the galleons; for which purpoſe the Nonſuch, Captain Hardy, and the Roebuck, were ſtationed on the Spaniſh coaſt. Intelligence was ſoon after obtained, by means of ſome Spaniſh veſſels that were taken, that M. du Caſſe, with a ſtrong ſquadron, had arrived at Carthagena, in order to convoy the galleons from thence to the Havannah, in their way to Cadiz. The commodore hereupon ſtood out to ſea on the 15th of July 1711, and, arriving on the coaſt of New Spain on the 27th, in the morning he chaſed four ſhips, and ſoon after came up with the vice-admiral of the galleons, and a Spaniſh merchant-ſhip. The Saliſbury's prize, commanded by Captain Robert Harland, firſt engaged the galleon, and preſently after the Saliſbury, commanded by Captain Francis Hoſier, joined in the attack: the commodore being now within piſtol ſhot, was preparing his broadſide, which the galleon to avoid ſtruck her colours. She proved to be the very ſhip that had eſcaped from Admiral Wager two years before; (ſee page 240.) The wealth ſhe had on-board at this time was inconſiderable, for Du Caſſe had taken out moſt of the money, from ſome ſuſpicion which he entertained of the commanding officer; ſo that the ſilver found on-board her was chiefly private property. The vice-admiral received a wound by a ſmall ſhot in the engagement, of which he afterwards died. The merchantman in company with the galleon, was taken by the Jerſey; ſhe carried twenty-ſix guns, and was laden with cocoa and wool. The priſoners informed the commodore, that M. du Caſſe had ſailed two days before with the fleet; and was no ſooner at ſea than a ſtorm ſeparated them, and blew thoſe ſhips into the hands

hands of the Engliſh. Theſe captures were made with the loſs of one man killed and ſix wounded in the action. Commodore Littleton, being well aſſured that the French commander would proceed with his fleet to the Havannah, determined to cruize a little to leeward of Point Pedro ſhoals, as the ſtation moſt favourable for intercepting him before he reached that harbour; but being miſled by falſe intelligence given by the maſter of a trading veſſel which arrived at Jamaica, who made oath that eighteen French men of war had arrived at Martinico, the commodore returned to Jamaica in order to protect that iſland, againſt which he ſuppoſed the force of France would be directed. Soon after his arrival, he not only found that he had been deceived by the intelligence brought him, but that M. du Caſſe had got ſafe into the Havannah, very ſoon after the commodore had quitted his ſtation. Here he found the Theſis, a French man of war which had been juſt taken; and ſoon after arrived the Weymouth, Captain Leſtock, with a ſmall privateer taken on the coaſt of Porto Rico. The commodore ſent the Angleſea, Fowey, and Scarborough, to convoy the merchantmen to England; the latter of theſe ſhips had been taken from the French by the two former, upon the coaſt of Guinea, where not long before the French had taken her from us.

About this time, the French formed a deſign of attacking the Leeward-iſlands, and this, with the natural ſtrength of their own colonies; for which purpoſe, they aſſembled in the month of May and June, about two thouſand men in Martinico; theſe they embarked on-board a large ſhip, of thirty-ſix guns, a hagboat of twenty-four guns, two merchant-ſhips, and nine privateer ſloops. They put to ſea on the 10th of June, with an intent to land on the iſland of Antigua; but they were ſcarcely clear of their own iſland, before they met with the Newcaſtle, Captain Bourn, who attacked them briſkly, and, notwithſtanding it was

a calm, and they lay in such a manner, that he could not bring his broadside to bear upon them; yet, after an action of three hours, in which the French lost sixty-four men, he obliged them to relinquish their design, and avail themselves of the first breeze to return into a port of their own islands. Unwilling, however, absolutely to abandon their design, they refitted their vessels, and on the 16th of June landed near one thousand five hundred men on the island of Montserrat; they debarked the troops about twelve at night, and began to plunder the country; but, being informed that Captain Bourn sailed from thence that day, and was expected to return there the next, they re-embarked with such speed, that they left several of their party behind them, who were made prisoners by the inhabitants of the island. Whilst the French were intent on these schemes, Captain Leslie of the Diamond, in company with the Panther, cruised at a small distance off their coast, and took three of their transports.

In North America, the French had taken the fort of St. John's in Newfoundland by scalade; which had greatly strengthened them in those parts, where they had been before found to be too strong. To dispossess those invaders, a squadron of men of war was fitted out, consisting of the Dragon of 50 guns, Commodore George Martin; the Falmouth and Chester, 50 guns each, Captains Rydell and Matthews; the Leostoff, 32 guns, Captain George Gordon; Feversham, 36, Captain Robert Paston, and the Star bomb-ketch, Captain Thomas Rochfort. The command of the land-forces was given, to Colonel Francis Nicholson. This fleet proceeded to Boston in New England. The colony of Massachuset's bay furnished a body of land-forces; and the fleet, having taken on-board 2000 troops, set sail on the 18th of September, 1710, for Port Royal in Nova Scotia, and on the 25th the landing was effected. On the 2d of October the French

garriſon capitulated, one of the articles of which capitulation was, that the inhabitants within cannon-ſhot of Port-Royal ſhould remain on their eſtates, with their corn, cattle, and furniture, for two years, in caſe they were not deſirous of going before that time, they taking the oaths of allegiance and fidelity to the queen of Great Britain. The term, "within cannon-ſhot," was afterwards explained to mean, three Engliſh miles round the fort, which diſtrict was from thenceforth called Annapolis Royal, in honour of Queen Anne. A liſt of the names of ſuch perſons as choſe to continue there was delivered in to the governor, which included four hundred and eighty-one perſons, male and female.

After this ſucceſsful enterprize, the ſhips and troops returned to New England. The men of war and privateers continued to exert themſelves with great ſucceſs againſt the French. The Portland and Valeur took two very rich prizes, being valued at thirty thouſand pounds, bound from France to Newfoundland, but ſoon after the Valeur was ſurprized in harbour and taken by the French.

In Auguſt 1711, Captain John Aldred, in the Rocheſter, Captain Humphry Pudner in the Severn, and Captain George Parvis in the Portland, viſited all the harbours on the north ſide of Newfoundland, and ruined the French ſettlements wherever they went. All the fiſh, oil, ſtages, vats, boats, fiſhing-tackle, &c. fell into our hands, and were either taken or deſtroyed. And the only two ſhips which eſcaped, left their anchors and cables, and ſome of their ſails, behind.

The Engliſh miniſtry had long viewed with a jealous eye the ſettlements which the French had made in Canada. A century had elapſed ſince the foundation of the town of Quebec was laid by Champlain, but ſo ſlow was the progreſs made by France in colonization, that in the year 1626 they had only three wretched ſettlements ſurrounded with pales, the largeſt of which contained

contained but fifty inhabitants, including men, women, and children. The climate had not proved deſtructive to the people ſent there; though ſevere it was wholeſome, and the Europeans ſtrengthened their conſtitutions without endangering their lives. The little progreſs they made was entirely owing to an excluſive company, whoſe chief deſign was, not ſo much to create a national power in Canada, as to enrich themſelves by the fur trade. The evil might have been immediately removed by aboliſhing this monopoly, and allowing a free trade, but the ſpirit of the French government at that time did not diſpoſe it to introduce ſo beneficial a ſyſtem. In 1662 new regulations took place in France reſpecting Canada. They ſent a body of troops thither to defend their ſettlements from the attacks of the Iroquois Indians, a powerful nation on their ſouth-weſtern borders, whom the French had made their inveterate enemies by various acts of oppreſſion and tyranny. By the means of this force the French gradually acquired an abſolute ſuperiority over the natives. A peace took place, which rendered the colony proſperous. A general freedom of trade was granted, except only the beaver trade, which continued to be monopolized, and this was indeed the ſtaple article of traffic. The Engliſh who had poſſeſſed themſelves of New Belgia, and called it New York, having eſtabliſhed a trade with the Indians for furs, found the French traders greatly interfere with them in their traffic, on which account they had attempted ſome time before, to diſlodge their rivals, but, finding themſelves unequal to the taſk, they prevailed on the new Britiſh miniſtry to undertake the conqueſt of Canada. For this purpoſe General Nicholſon came to England, and the plan of the expedition was laid in the ſpring of 1711. For this purpoſe five thouſand men were brought from Flanders. The command of the land forces was given to General Hill, the brother of the new favourite Lady Maſham; Sir Hoveden Walker, rear-

rear-admiral of the white, commanded the fleet. The naval force ſent out on this expedition was as follows:

Torbay,	Captain Moody,	500 men,	80 guns.
Monmouth,	Mitchell,	400	70
Sunderland,	Gore,	365	60
Diamond,	Liſle,	190	40
Devonſhire,	Arris,	520	80
Edgar, Sir Hovenden	Walker,	440	70
Humber,	Culliford,	520	80
Montague,	Walton,	365	60
Kingſton,	Winder,	365	60
Swiftſure,	Cooper,	400	70
Dunkirk,	Butler,	365	60

Together with the Bedford galley frigate, Baſiliſk and Granada bombs, with the Experiment bomb tender. There were beſides, thirty-three tranſports, with the regiments of Brigadier Hill, Colonels Windreſs, Clayton, and Kane, Lieutenant-general Seymour, Colonel Diſney, Colonel Kirk, and a battalion of marines under the command of Colonel Charles Churchill, making in all, upwards of five thouſand men, and eight tranſports and tenders belonging to the train.

In April 1711 a part of this armament ſailed from Portſmouth, and in May from Plymouth. They took on-board a ſupply of proviſions too ſcanty for the voyage which was before them, and great unſkillfulneſs was diſcovered in the choice of the ſhips for the expedition, which were in general too large for the navigation of the river St. Laurence. The fleet having cleared land proceeded directly for Boſton, where much time was taken up in laying in freſh ſtores, which might with greater expedition have been put on-board in England. In conſequence of this delay, it was not until the 30th of July, that Admiral Walker ſailed for the river St. Laurence. The firſt object of the expedition was the reduction of Quebec, which when effected, the fleet and troops were inſtructed to attack

Placentia

Placentia in Newfoundland. The fleet and tranſports arrived off Gaſpé-bay on the 18th of Auguſt, when tempeſtuous weather, and ſtrong currents, drove them on the north ſhore among rocks and ſmall iſlands, and expoſed the whole armament to imminent danger of being loſt. Eight tranſport ſhips were caſt away, and almoſt nine hundred officers, ſoldiers, and ſeamen, periſhed: many of the other ſhips were alſo miſerably ſhattered. A council of war was called on the 25th, compoſed of ſea officers, by whom it was unanimouſly reſolved, that, on account of the ignorance of the pilots, as well as the uncertainty and rapidity of the currents, it was impoſſible to proceed up the river St. Laurence with the men of war and tranſports as far as Quebec. The admiral hereupon brought the fleet into Spaniſh-river in the iſland of Cape Breton; where on the 8th of September a general council of war, compoſed of land and ſea officers, was held, to deliberate on the expediency of attacking Placentia. It was the opinion of all preſent that the ſeaſon was too far advanced to warrant ſuch an attempt. Hereupon the troops from New England were ſent back to that province, and the fleet returned to England, where it arrived on the 9th day of October, 1711.

As this was the firſt expedition ſet on foot by the new miniſtry, (although Lord Godolphin had projected ſuch an enterprize whilſt he was in power,) its ill ſucceſs mortified them exceedingly, but its miſcarriage ought to be imputed to the injudicious manner in which it was conducted. It may not be improper to mention here, what the Baron Lahontan, one of the firſt and moſt faithful of thoſe French travellers in North America, who have written accounts of their diſcoveries, ſays, in his deſcription of Canada, ſo long ago as the year 1703. "There is," ſays he, "a general opinion prevailing in Canada, that their colony will ſooner or later be conquered by the Engliſh." The time for fulfilling this prediction was not then arrived.

A few

A few days after the arrival of the fleet at Spithead, the admiral's ſhip the Edgar, a third rate of ſeventy guns, blew up, whilſt ſeveral hundred ſeamen were on-board, all of whom periſhed, together with many of their friends who were at that time on-board. The admiral was ſet out for London; all the commiſſion-officers were on ſhore. The ſeamen, who although the moſt fearleſs of danger, are as much inclined to ſuperſtitious conceits as any ſet of people whatever, conſidered this diſaſter as ominous to the whole navy of Great Britain, becauſe it was the oldeſt ſhip in the ſervice; and, as this ſhip derived its name from a Saxon king, ſo a tradition prevailed that it was actually the ſhip in which King Edgar ſailed, ſome part of the old veſſel being conſtantly preſerved every time that ſhe had been rebuilt.

In this month arrived in the Downs two privateers, called the Duke and Ducheſs, commanded by the Captains Woods Rogers and Stephen Courtney, which had been fitted out by ſome merchants at Briſtol, to cruize in the South Seas againſt the Spaniards in the year 1708. The Duke mounted thirty guns, and had 170 men on-board; the Ducheſs had twenty-ſix guns, and 150 men. The famous Capt. Dampier, whoſe voyages have made him known throughout Europe, was on-board one of theſe veſſels, as pilot; they ſailed from Briſtol on the 1ſt of Auguſt, 1708, and, having happily paſſed the Streights of Magellan, they not only took ſeveral ſhips in the South Seas, but ſeveral towns alſo upon the coaſt; and on the 22d of December, 1709, they met with the Acapulco ſhip, that is, the ſmaller of the two ſhips which ſail annually from the Manillas to Mexico; ſhe was of the burden of 400 tons, and carried twenty guns, and as many pattararoes. The action laſted about half an hour, and the value of the prize was about two million pieces of eight; the larger Acapulco ſhip fell alſo in their way, which they attacked two days ſucceſſively; but, as ſhe was of 900 tons burden, and had 600

men on-board, they found it impoſſible to take her, which made them determine to return by the Eaſt-Indies: ſo that they encompaſſed the world in three years and two months. Theſe two ſhips, when on the weſtern coaſt of South America, touched on a ſmall iſland called Juan Fernandez for refreſhments, where they found a Scots ſeaman, named Alexander Selkirk, who had reſided on that uninhabited and unfrequented ſpot near five years, and in one of theſe ſhips he came back to England, and afterwards lived to reviſit his long-loſt native country.

The Britiſh miniſtry now embraced a pacific ſyſtem, as the only one that could give permanency to their poſſeſſion of power. In the month of October, a copy of preliminary articles between England and France were delivered to Count Galas, the Imperial ambaſſador at London, who immediately made them public, thereby appealing from the government to the people. The miniſtry were ſo much offended at his conduct, that the ambaſſador was forbidden the court, and even told that he might quit the kingdom. Lord Raby, upon this occaſion created Earl of Strafford, was ſent to Holland in September, to lay before the States the preliminary articles which had been received from France and approved by Great Britain. The States objected in vain; they ſent over to London M. Buys as their envoy extraordinary, to repreſent to the queen the ground of their diſlike to the terms on which the general peace of Europe was to be reſtored. But neither the remonſtrances of the confederating powers, nor the diſcontents of the nation, could ſhake the reſolution of Oxford and his aſſociates; ſo that at length a congreſs was appointed to be held at Utrecht, on the 12th of January, 1712.

The parliament met on the 7th of December; the queen in her ſpeech informed them of the ſteps which had been taken to reſtore the general tranquillity of Europe: ſhe aſſured her parliament that ſhe would not only

only endeavour to procure all reasonable satisfaction to her allies, but unite them in the strictest engagements to render permanent the public repose; adding, that the best way to treat with effect about a peace, was to make an early provision for carrying on the war: she therefore required the usual supplies. When the estimates were laid before the house of commons, a resolution was readily made that 40,000 seamen, including 8,000 marines, should be employed for the sea-service, and that one hundred and eighty thousand pounds should be employed for the ordinary of the navy. The whole amount of the supplies granted, was 6,656,967l.

The house likewise, to gratify the wishes of the ministry, followed up the charges against the Duke of Marlborough and his secretary, for peculation in the contracts for bread and bread-waggons for the army in Flanders. In support of this they produced the deposition of Sir Solomon de Medina, the contractor, who said, "That for the years 1707, 8, 9, 10, 11, he had been solely, or in partnership, concerned in the contracts for supplying bread and bread-waggons to the forces in the Low Countries, in the Queen of Great Britain's pay; and that he gave to the Duke of Marlborough, for his own use, on each contract, the several sums following, part of which was paid at the beginning and part at the end of each respective contract, in bills or notes delivered by the deponent into the duke's own hands, viz. For the year 1707, sixty-six thousand and six hundred guilders; for the year 1708, sixty-two thousand six hundred and twenty-five guilders; for the year 1709, sixty-nine thousand five hundred seventy-eight guilders, and fifteen stivers; for the year 1710, sixty-six thousand eight hundred and ten guilders, nineteen stivers, and eight pennings. Total, 265,614 guilders, 14 stivers, and 8 pennings. For the year 1711, twenty-one thousand guilders; which is in part of a like sum with those above-men-

tioned, intended to be paid at the end of the contracts for this year.

" That he was obliged to allow yearly, during the time of his being contractor, twelve or fourteen waggons gratis to the Duke of Marlborough.

" That during the time of his being contractor, as aforesaid, he gave, on sealing each contract, a gratuity of five hundred gold ducats to M. Cardonnel, secretary to the Duke of Marlborough.

" That for all the money he received of M. Sweet, deputy paymaster at Amsterdam, he was obliged to pay one pound per cent. That the former contractor Machado did the same, and that he acquainted the Duke of Marlborough with the deduction of one per cent.

" He farther deposed, that it appeared by the accounts of Antonio Alvarez Machado, who had been a contractor before him, and supplied the bread and bread-waggons to the forces in the English pay, for the years 1702, 3, 4, 5, and 6, that he said Machado, had paid as large yearly sums to the Duke of Marlborough, during the time of his being contractor, as this deponent has since done.

" From whence it appears that the Duke of Marlborough has received, on account of the bread and bread waggons, contracts from Sir Solomon de Medina (admitting the same already paid, and what is intended to be paid for this present year 1711, to be the same with that of the preceding year 1710), 332,425 guilders, 14 stivers; from Antonio Alvarez Machado, during the five years he was contractor, the like sums; which together make 664,851 guilders, 8 stivers; and, computed at ten guilders and ten stivers to the pound sterling, amount to 63,319l. 3s. 7d."

The DUKE'S ANSWER.---" Having been informed that Sir Solomon de Medina has acquainted you with my having received several sums of money from him: that it might make the less impression on you, I would lose no time in letting you know, that this is no

more than what has been allowed as a perquisite to the general or commander in chief of the army in the Low Countries, even before the revolution and since: and I do assure you at the same time, that whatever sums I have received on that account have been constantly employed for the service of the public, in keeping secret correspondence, and getting intelligence of the enemy's motions and designs; and it has fallen so far short, that I take leave to acquaint you with another article that has been applied to the same use, and which arises from her majesty's warrant, whereof the inclosed is a copy. Though this does not properly relate to the public accounts, being a free gift of the foreign troops, you will have observed by the several establishments, that before the late king's death, when the parliament voted forty thousand men for the quota of England in the Low Countries, twenty-one thousand six hundred and twelve were to be foreigners, and the rest English. For these last they gave ten thousand pounds a-year for intelligence and other contingencies, without account: but his majesty being sensible, by the experience of the last war, that this sum would not any ways answer that service, and unwilling to apply for more to the parliament, he was pleased to order that the foreign troops should contribute two a half per cent. towards it: and, being then his ambassador and commander in chief abroad, he directed me to propose it to them, with an assurance that they should have no other stoppage made from their pay; this they readily agreed to, and her majesty was afterwards pleased to confirm it by her warrant, upon my acquainting her with the uses it was intended for; and it has been accordingly applied from time to time for intelligence and secret services, with such success, that, next to the blessing of God, and the bravery of the troops, we may, in a great measure, attribute most of the advantages of the war in this country, to the timely and good advices procured with the help of this money. And now,

now, gentlemen, as I have laid the whole matter fairly before you, and that I hope you will allow I ſerved my queen and my country with that faithfulneſs and zeal which becomes an honeſt man; the favour I intreat of you is, that, when you make your report to the parliament, you will lay this part before them in its true light, ſo that they may ſee this neceſſary and important part of the war has been provided for and carried on without any other expence to the public than ten thouſand pounds a-year. And I flatter myſelf, that, when the accounts of the army in Flanders come under your conſideration, you will be ſenſible the ſervice, on this ſide, has been carried on with all the œconomy and good huſbandry to the public. MARLBOROUGH."

As to the bread contract, it appeared afterwards, upon the oath of Sir John Germaine, who had been aid de camp to Prince Waldeck, that that prince, as general in the Low Countries, had received the ſame perquiſite; and as to the two and a half per cent. it likewiſe appeared that it was given voluntarily, and was offered to the Duke of Ormond. But the queen, on the 30th of December, being preſent in council, thought fit to declare, that, having notice of an information againſt the Duke of Marlborough before the houſe of commons, by the commiſſioners of the public accounts, ſhe thought fit to diſmiſs him from all his employments, that the matter might be the more impartially examined. This declaration was entered in the council book, and the queen the next day wrote a note to the Duke of Marlborough, wherein ſhe ſignified the ſame thing to him. His grace received it with all imaginable ſubmiſſion, and wrote a very reſpectful anſwer, which he ſent by the Counteſs of Sunderland, his daughter. Some time after the duke publiſhed his caſe, which, whatever weight it might have with the people in general, did not however ſatisfy the houſe of commons, wherein it was reſolved, That the taking ſums of money annually from the contractors of the bread

bread and bread-waggons was unwarrantable and illegal; as alſo that the two and half per cent. deducted from the foreign troops, is public money, and ought to be accounted for. Theſe reſolutions were laid before the queen; and the houſe addreſſed her majeſty to direct her attorney-general to proſecute his grace. No legal proceſs, however, was ſet on foot, and the affair died away.

Towards the latter end of the year his highneſs Prince Eugene of Savoy came over into England. It was thought at that time, that thoſe in the miniſtry treated him with very little reſpect, or rather with indignity, when they ſent Meſſieurs Drummond and Brinſden to receive him; the former, at beſt, a decayed merchant and humble attendant on the treaſurer; the latter, a ſort of oculiſt, and an abſolute dependant on Lord Bolingbroke. By ſome accident or other, Brinſden ſprained his foot, ſo Drummond had the ſole care of his highneſs, for whom he hired a barge at Graveſend, and, together with Count Naſſau Woudenbourg, ſon to the late Field-marſhal d'Auverquerque, his nephew, and ſome other perſons of diſtinction, he landed at Whitehall, from whence his highneſs went in a hackney coach to Leiceſter houſe, which Count Galas left fitted up for his reception. What converſation Mr. Drummond had with his highneſs remains a ſecret, excepting only the following inſtructive hint, which this miniſter of a miniſter thought fit to drop to his highneſs, "That the leſs he ſaw the Duke of Marlborough the better;" to which his highneſs anſwered, with his uſual plainneſs, "That, as the miniſtry might be aſſured he would not cabal againſt them, ſo he hoped they did not expect he ſhould alter his uſual behaviour to his good friend the Duke of Marlborough." His highneſs was generally conceived to have made this journey with much the ſame view that Monſ. Buys came envoy from the States of Holland, viz. to try whether it was not poſſible to perſuade the queen to carry

carry on the war; if it was ſo, his highneſs was certainly diſappointed; for at his firſt audience the queen referred him for buſineſs to the treaſurer and Mr. Secretary St. John, and never would be brought to confer privately with him herſelf. His highneſs was mightily careſſed while here by all ſorts of people; he dined publicly with the Dukes of Marlborough, Ormond, Montague, Grafton, Shrewſbury, Buckinghamſhire, Devonſhire, and Richmond; Earls Poulet, Portland, Sunderland, Wharton, Rivers, Stairs, Orkney, and Oxford, which laſt-mentioned nobleman was pleaſed to tell him, "That he ſhould eſteem that day the happieſt of his whole life, in which he had the honour to ſee in his houſe the greateſt captain of his age;" to which his highneſs replied, with great quickneſs, "that, if it were ſo, he owed it to his lordſhip;" alluding to his having procured the Duke of Marlborough's commiſſion to be taken from him. The queen on her birth-day made the prince a preſent of a ſword ſet with diamonds, valued at five thouſand pounds; but as to the anſwer given by Mr. Secretary St. John to his memorials, they were not to his wiſh, ſo that he left England very well ſatisfied with the people, but little pleaſed with the miniſtry. As for the Duke of Marlborough, though all the methods poſſible were uſed to diſtreſs him, yet he preſerved his temper, came frequently to the houſe of lords, ſpoke his mind freely, and, when the ſervice of the houſe no longer required it, retired to St. Alban's, where he lived as privately as poſſible, and as quietly as his enemies would let him.

A treaty having been entered into between Viſcount Townſend and the States of the United Provinces, by which certain towns in Flanders were aſſigned to the latter as a barrier when the war ſhould terminate, that treaty next became the ſubject of parliamentary enquiry. Liſle, Tournay, Menin, Douay, and other places ſituated on the Lys and the Scheld, which

which had been thereby guaranteed to the ſtates, and which France, in her former overtures for peace, had agreed to give up, were now thought by the pacific party too great a ſurrender for that kingdom to make. The houſe therefore voted that ſeveral articles in the barrier treaty were deſtructive to the trade and intereſt of Great Britain; that Lord Townſend had neither orders nor authority to conclude thoſe pernicious articles; that therefore, he who negociated and ſigned the treaty, was an enemy to the queen and kingdom.

The commons next went into an examination of the conduct of the allies, with reſpect to their furniſhing their proper quotas for the war. It appeared upon this enquiry, that not one of the confederates, except Great Britain, had fulfilled their engagements. That the emperor, in particular, who had moſt to gain by the war, contributed the leaſt towards its expence. That the States of the United Provinces had not come up in any article to the terms of their treaties. That the King of Portugal and the Duke of Savoy made a lucrative trade of the war, by procuring from their friends thoſe advantages which they ought to have wreſted from their enemies. The commons came to various reſolutions on this important ſubject: the princes and ſtates, who compoſed the confederacy, were treated with great freedom in the debates. Such proceedings were highly reſented by the reſpective miniſters, who complained that the Britiſh nation inſulted their friends to facilitate a diſhonourable treaty with a faithleſs enemy, who preſumed to dictate the terms of peace after having been almoſt totally ſubdued in the war.

Whilſt the purſuit of peace thus introduced diſcord and contention into the nation, the negociation at Utrecht met with many weighty impediments. As the unexpected death of the emperor Joſeph ſeemed to enſure the repoſe of Europe, ſo other unlooked-for deaths, at this critical juncture, threatened to impede its completion. The dauphin of France, the only ſon

of Louis XIV. died at the age of fifty; his ſon the Duke of Burgundy died ſoon after, then the latter's eldeſt ſon the Duke of Brittany. Of three ſons born to the Duke of Burgundy, only the Duke of Anjou, a ſickly infant, ſurvived. This ſurprizing mortality in the royal family of France, led even the Engliſh miniſtry to demand new ſecurities for the ſtability of the peace, and for preventing the kingdoms of France and Spain being under the government of the ſame ſovereign.

The French king was ſo well aſſured of the pacific inclinations of thoſe with whom he had to treat, that he even renounced all evaſion, and roundly inſiſted on the abſolute hereditary right, by which princes poſſeſs their crowns, which they derive from God alone, and therefore no human compacts can make void; ſo that this link in the chain that binds together the community cannot be broken. He went ſo far as to aſſert, that, ſhould the King of Spain renounce his right of ſucceeding to the crown of France, on failure of his elder brother's iſſue, for the ſake of peace, that renunciation, however ſolemnly made, could not deprive him of a right, which was inherently lodged in him, and which it was not in his power to diveſt himſelf of. After ſuch an open declaration of the nugatory tendency of the moſt ſolemn renunciation in the matter of ſucceſſion to a crown, the acceptance of it was an affront to the underſtanding of the nation. However, to colour over the tranſaction, Louis XIV. wrote a letter to his grandſon, Philip, deſiring him in the moſt ſolemn manner to renounce all claim to the crown of France, and to refer his contingent right thereto to the Duke of Berry.

The emperor, being now determined to ſhew his zeal in the common cauſe, ſent a large army into Flanders; the Dutch alſo made an extraordinary effort, and even furniſhed beyond their contingent. The confederates took the field in Flanders the end of April, their army amounting to one hundred and twenty-two thouſand

ſand men. At the head of the Imperial forces, was Prince Eugene; the Duke of Ormond now commanded the Britiſh forces, and ſuch troops as were in Britiſh pay. Queen Anne, whoſe reſentment againſt France was quite diſarmed, had determined that nothing ſhould be effected againſt that kingdom; otherwiſe, had Marlborough been continued in the command, at the head of ſuch an army, and ſeconded by the Prince of Savoy, the year 1712 would moſt probably have diſmembered France of ſome of her richeſt provinces; but Ormond was ſent over to the continent with ſecret inſtructions not to act offenſively.

Marſhal Villars was ſtrongly entrenched behind the Scheld; but the penetrating eye of Eugene diſcovered an aſſailable quarter, by which he determined to attack that general. This reſolution he communicated to the Duke of Ormond, and aſked the aſſiſtance of his troops. Ormond could then no longer conceal the nature of his orders; he declined leading his troops on in the attempt to diſlodge the French.

As ſoon as intelligence of this event reached the Hague, the States ſent a remonſtrance to the court of London. The nation felt the indignity which had been caſt upon it, the houſe of lords expreſſed their reſentment at the conduct of the general, but the miniſtry were too deeply intrenched to regard theſe commotions.

Notwithſtanding theſe altercations, Prince Eugene perſiſted in the reſolution he had taken of beſieging Queſnoy, a ſmall but very ſtrong town in the province of Hainault, and territory of Valenciennes, eighteen miles ſouth-weſt of Mons, and as many north-eaſt of Cambray. General Fagel inveſted it with thirty battalions and as many ſquadrons, and on the eighth of June the Duke of Ormond, notwithſtanding the declarations already mentioned, actually covered the ſiege with the Britiſh troops and thoſe in Britiſh pay. The trenches were opened between the 19th and 20th, and the ſiege carried on with all imaginable vigour. On

the 24th the Duke of Ormond sent to desire a conference with Prince Eugene and the deputies of the States, which accordingly was held the next morning, wherein his grace declared that he had received orders from her majesty to publish a cessation of arms for three months between her majesty's troops and those of the most Christian king; that he was directed to do this in three days, as also to send a detachment of ten battalions to take possession of Dunkirk, which the most Christian king had declared himself ready to put into her hands. His grace added farther, that he had orders to propose the same suspension of arms should be published in the army of his highness. Prince Eugene desired that time might be given, as well to himself as to the deputies of the States, to acquaint their respective sovereigns with the declaration; to which his grace answered, that it was not in his power to exceed his orders. He likewise informed his highness, that, if he persisted in the siege, he could cover it no longer. The duke however was prevailed on not to be hasty, as he at first declared he would be; but Prince Eugene pressing the siege of Quesnoy with much greater vigour than ever, his grace thought himself obliged to send him notice, that, if he expected he should continue in that neighbourhood with his troops, his highness should discontinue his attacks. To which Prince Eugene thought fit to answer, that far from slackening his proceedings, as he requested, he should prosecute the siege with more diligence than ever, and that he did not doubt he should render his grace a witness of a more important expedition. Henceforward, all friendly intercourse between these generals ceased. The duke sent his orders in writing to the generals in chief of the troops in the pay of Great Britain, to hold themselves ready to march; but those generals gave him to understand that they should pay no regard to that order, but remain with Prince Eugene, excepting only Major-general Berner, who commanded four squadrons and one battalion

talion of the troops of Holſtein Gottorp, and Major-general Walef, who commanded a regiment of Liegois dragoons; ſo that, after ten years receiving Britiſh pay, theſe gentlemen let the world into the ſecret, that they were obedient to the orders of Britiſh generals as long as they liked them. The 1ſt of July the counterſcarp of Queſnoy was carried by aſſault; and, on the 3d, Lieutenant-general Labadie ſurrendered the place, himſelf and his garriſon, conſiſting of 2700 men, remaining priſoners of war.

On the 15th in the evening, Prince Eugene ſent an aid de camp to let the Duke of Ormond know that he ſhould decamp next day, and that, if he pleaſed, he might confer with him. The duke returned him an anſwer in writing to this purpoſe, That he thought it odd to have ſuch a meſſage ſent him by a plain aid de camp, and only twelve or fifteen hours before he muſt be obliged to march; that as they had taken no meaſures together, either as to marching or any other enterprize, he thought his highneſs had no reaſon to expect that he ſhould accompany or aſſiſt him in operations about which he had never been conſulted; that he took the liberty of giving his highneſs this notice, that he might regulate his affairs accordingly, and not attribute to him any miſchief which might happen hereafter; and that he believed it alſo proper to acquaint his highneſs, that, if he ſhould decamp and leave him, he ſhould be obliged to take the beſt meaſures he could for the ſecurity of the queen's troops. On the 16th of July the armies ſeparated; the Daniſh, Pruſſian, Saxon, and Hanover, troops, in the pay of Great Britain, followed Prince Eugene: his highneſs encamped at Atre near Landrecies, which the Prince of Anhault Deſſau inveſted the next morning with thirty-four battalions and as many ſquadrons, ſupported by the grand army under Prince Eugene, the left of which joined his camp, and the right extended along the Scheld towards Denain, where the allies had an intrenched camp to

cover

cover the bringing up of their artillery, ammunition, and proviſions, which came by water from their magazines in Flanders.

The Duke of Ormond on the 17th cauſed the ſuſpenſion of arms to be publiſhed in his camp, as the Marſhal de Villars had already done in his. The Britiſh troops repaſſed the Schelde and the Scarpe, and came to Ghent and Bruges, where they continued all the reſt of the campaign.

Prince Eugene, to give the French a taſte of what he intended after Landrecies was reduced, ſent Brigadier Groveſtein, at the head of 2800 horſe, to penetrate into that kingdom; this detachment marched in ſmall bodies, which did not unite till they were at twenty-five leagues diſtance from the camp: they marched three days and three nights without reſting, except an hour or two in the night to refreſh their horſes. They ravaged, plundered, and burnt, ſeveral open towns and villages in the dioceſes of Rheims and Chalons, terrifying all the country round about, by declaring that Prince Eugene was but a day's march from them with 25000 men; retiring through the country of Metz, they did no leſs miſchief there, and at laſt got ſafe to Traerback, loaded with money, booty, and hoſtages. Marſhal Villars, as ſoon as he had intelligence of it, ſent after them M. de St. Fremont with 4000 horſe; but the allies, having a day's march of him, could not be overtaken, though they came time enough to find eighteen villages within ſight of Metz ſmoking and in ruins. Villars complained loudly of this, as contrary to the eſtabliſhed laws of arms, and tending to no good end, but, on the contrary, merely to harraſs and deſtroy an innocent people.

The reader has been already informed that his highneſs had an intrenched camp at Denain, an abbey and village ſeated on the Schelde, between Valenciennes and Bouchain, which covered St. Amand, Mortagne, and Marchiennes, poſts of great conſequence on the Scarpe, between

between Tournay and Douay, in the laſt of which were the principal magazines for the army: for the farther ſecurity of this place, there was a double line of communication from the retrenchments of Denain to Fenin, which is at the end of the road to Marchiennes, on this ſide the moraſs. The right line began at the old lines which the French drew up in the year 1709, after the battle of Malplaquet, and reached to the dike of Fenin. The left was between Denain and Lourche, running by the ſide of the Eſcandain, quite to the before-mentioned dike. It was between theſe two lines that the convoys paſſed from Marchiennes to Denain, and from thence to the army before Landrecies, behind another line.

Villars knew very well the conſequences which would attend the loſs of the town now beſieged, which once taken, there was nothing to hinder excurſions in the winter to the very gates of Paris; he therefore reſolved, at all events, to do ſomething to ſave this place. Two things offered themſelves to his mind, either to fight Prince Eugene or to deprive him of his magazines. The former he pretended to fix on, but the latter was his real choice. As ſoon as he had determined, he made ſuch diſpoſitions, and gave ſuch orders, as perſuaded every body that he would attack the army of obſervation in its entrenchments; nay, he carried the thing ſo far, that Eugene at laſt believed it himſelf, and provided accordingly.

The troops encamped at Denain conſiſted of ten battalions and twenty-three ſquadrons; they were poſted along the retrenchment from left to right, the cavalry and infantry being intermixed. The artillery was placed in a park behind the camp, with a vaſt quantity of ammunition which had been left there after the ſiege of Queſnoy was finiſhed. Brigadier Berkhoffer, at the head of four battalions and three ſquadrons, covered the barges laden with ammunition, artillery, and proviſions, at Marchiennes.

The enemy on the 19th paſſed the Schelde above and below Cambray, drawing together all their troops, and withdrawing all their detachments from the poſts along the Senſet, Marſhal Villars giving out that he was now reſolved to fight. Prince Eugene put his troops under arms, and ſent orders to the Earl of Albemarle, commander in chief of the Dutch troops, to be ready to march in caſe of need. The Earl of Albemarle executed exactly the prince's orders; he likewiſe cauſed a bridge to be begun, and directed five or ſix hundred labourers to work thereat, ſo that it would have been finiſhed in a day or two at moſt, if the enemy had not attacked him in the interim. A convoy from Tournay arrived in the mean time, eſcorted by two battalions, which battalions had orders to remain at Beaurepaire, under the command of Brigadier Berkhoffer, who had by this time ſix battalions and three ſquadrons. The Earl of Albemarle ſent that gentleman orders, that, in caſe he found the French had any deſign upon Marchiennes, he ſhould immediately march and encamp his troops between the Scarpe and the great moraſs, through which, as there lay but one narrow path to the barges, ſo it had on one ſide the priory of Hamage, and on the other the fort of Riolet, both of which were well ſecured. The enemy were continually in motion on the ſide of the Sambre, in order to give the allies to underſtand that they had their eyes on the ſiege of Landrecies, and were taking meaſures to raiſe it; and, to render this ſtill the more probable, they cauſed ſeveral bridges to be thrown over the Sambre, and took all the ſteps neceſſary for them to have taken in caſe they had deſigned to attack Prince Eugene in his lines, though in reality his ſole view was to cut off the troops at Denain, and to poſſeſs himſelf of Marchiennes. To this end he ſent orders to the garriſon of Valenciennes to be ready to march; and on the 23d about noon, he ſent all his huſſars to patrole up and down the great roads between Cambray,

bray, Bouchain, and the grand army; he at the same time posted guards of horse and foot on all the passages of the Selle and Schelde, to prevent our having any intelligence of his true design. About seven in the evening he detached M. de Coigny, with thirty squadrons of dragoons to advance towards the lines of circumvallation before Landrecies, as if he intended to attack them that night; but at the same time he detached the Marquis de Vieuxpont, with thirty battalions, all the pontons, and a brigade of cavalry; as also Lieutenant-general Albergotti, with twenty battalions and forty squadrons, to sustain him; and, as soon as he was on his march, the marshal and his army followed, the heavy baggage being sent to St. Quintin and Ham. Count Broglio covered the march of the infantry with forty-nine squadrons, having strict orders also to observe that no body crossed the little river Selle to give notice of their march. They marched all night through the plains between the Selle and the Schelde, so that by break of day their van arrived at Nieufville on the last-mentioned river, over which bridges were immediately thrown for them to pass. Notwithstanding that my Lord Albemarle had continually a great number of spies on all the roads in his neighbourhood to watch the motions of the enemy, yet they gave him no intelligence of their march, either because they were seized by the enemy's guards, or because they found the river so well secured that they durst not attempt to pass. On the 21st in the morning, Major-general Bothmar gave notice that he observed the enemy about Avesneleseс. Albemarle immediately dispatched a person to Prince Eugene, to intreat him to come in person to his assistance: he fired also six pieces of cannon, as well to give notice to Bouchain, Marchiennes, and St. Amand, as to recal the horses from pasture belonging to the squadrons under his command, and those in the camp: the horses were immediately brought in, and the cavalry mounted as

fast as possible. The Earl of Albemarle detached likewise sixteen squadrons through the plain on his left, in order to dispute with the enemy the passage at Nieufville, not knowing that their bridges were laid there, and that their troops had passed already, because that passage lay in a bottom, with a rising ground between the camp and it; but, as soon as the sixteen squadrons had passed that rising ground, they saw a great body of horse and foot advancing towards them. Albemarle, thinking it not proper to suffer sixteen squadrons to attack so numerous a corps, recalled them. He likewise detached some squadrons to hinder the enemy's junction with the troops from Valenciennes, but the vigilance of Marshal Villars, and the expedition of the garrison, frustrated that design.

When the earl perceived that the camp would be undoubtedly attacked, he posted his ten battalions along the retrenchment, under the command of Lieutenant-general Count Dhona and the other general officers. About ten, Prince Eugene arrived with several general officers; he viewed in person the march and motions of the enemy, he visited the entrenchments, approved the disposition of the infantry, and ordered that the cavalry which had passed the Schelde should repass it as soon as possible, because he saw that they could not there be of any use. He observed likewise, that these ten battalions drawn up three deep, left a great part of the entrenchment unguarded; to remedy this inconvenience, he ordered six Imperial and Palatine battalions who were next at hand, in the new line of communication, between Thian and Denain, to take post on the right.

The enemy by this time were in order of battle, all the dispositions being made with the utmost hurry, in order to attack the allies before they could receive any reinforcement from the grand army, to which end thirty battalions, eighty companies of grenadiers, the piquet of the army, and all the dragoons, advanced on foot.

foot. These dragoons formed the first column, their right marching by the meadows along the river-side towards the entrenchment before the left wing of the allies; the thirty battalions, the grenadiers, and the piquet, formed two other columns between that of the dragoons and the lines of communication: these two columns were supported by thirty other battalions, and those battalions by all the rest of their horse and foot. We cannonaded them as fiercely as it was possible with six pieces of cannon, which were placed upon two batteries in the centre; and the enemy on their side played upon us with some pieces which were before their right wing on an eminence over against the entrenchments. The Earl of Albemarle gave intelligence to Prince Eugene of all the enemy's motions, who remained in a redoubt on the other side of the Schelde, where he could have an exact view of the whole affair. The Earl of Albemarle sent to demand his last orders, and his highness having sent him what instructions he thought necessary, added that he hoped he would defend himself as long as possible, and that in the mean time all the infantry of the grand army should advance to his assistance. Lord Albemarle took all the precautions possible, in order to give the enemy a warm reception; he ordered the three openings of the entrenchments to be strongly barricaded; and, perceiving that the enemy were likely to make their utmost efforts in the centre, he sent orders to Count Dhona, that, in case they should force it there, he should immediately attack them in flank, with the battalions under his command, in order to force them to retire, which that general afterwards performed, but without effect. All things being in order, about one o'clock the enemy began the attack, with the greatest bravery and the best order imaginable. The first place which felt the fury of their arms was a redoubt, in which the regiment of Welldderen was posted, against which their first column of dismounted dragoons advanced: that regiment fired

upon them with great fury, but the French puſhed them notwithſtanding to the parapet of the entrenchments, and the parapet conſiſting of faſcines and ſtones, and the ground being likewiſe ſtony, it fell all at once into the ditch, which gave the enemy an opportunity of entering with their bayonets at the head of their pieces, ſo that the entrenchment was forced on that ſide, upon which the troops threw down their arms on every ſide, and fled with amazing precipitation, ſome towards a bridge of pontoons, and ſome towards a water-mill.

The Earl of Albemarle, and the other general officers, did all that was poſſible to rally thoſe in the center; for, as to the left wing where Count Dhona and the Count de Naſſau Woudenburg commanded, they were cut off by the enemy from the reſt of the troops. Upon this he attempted to throw ſome regiments into the houſes and abbey on the right of Denain; as ſome of the troops were then in tolerable order, he thought they followed him, but, turning his head a minute after, he found himſelf almoſt alone, ſurrounded by the enemy. He did not however deſpair: he called, he made ſignals with his hat, but to no purpoſe, he was forced to ſurrender; and Marſhal Villars, to prevent any accident which might be fatal to him in the hurry, ſent him immediately to Valenciennes. In the mean time the infantry threw themſelves by hundreds at a time into the river, where numbers were drowned, a multitude ſlaughtered, and upwards of 2000 made priſoners; about 4000 came afterwards to the grand army. Among thoſe that were drowned were Lieutenant-general Count Dhona, and Major-general Count Naſſau Woudenberg, ſon of the late Field-marſhal d'Auverquerque, whoſe good qualities made him exceedingly regretted. Amongſt thoſe who were made priſoners were Lieutenant-general Secquin, Major-generals, Prince of Holſtein, Meſſieurs Dalberg and Zobel; Count de la Lippe, colonel; Meſſieurs Teugnagel,

nagel, Cavenagh, Spaen, and Greck, alſo colonels; Lieutenant-colonels Donnelly, Herbſhauſen, Heuſke, Brakel, Munich, and Els; ſix majors, forty-four captains, a hundred and nine ſubaltern officers, fifty-ſix troopers, four aid de camps, and ſeveral officers belonging to the train. Prince Eugene had brought up fourteen battalions to the very bank of the Schelde, but they could not paſs, becauſe the only remaining bridge, the other being ſent away the day before by the Prince's expreſs directions, was crowded with horſe and baggage, and unhappily broke with them all upon it. The wooden bridge was alſo unfiniſhed, ſo that all theſe troops could do was to look on, and to cover the runaways in their flight.

The enemy's army, according to this account, which is taken almoſt verbatim from M. Rouſſet, (whoſe impartiality, on this occaſion, cannot be queſtioned,) conſiſted of 133 battalions and 250 ſquadrons. It encamped after this action with its left towards the height of Hurtebize, its center at Eſcandin, and its right near Bouchain, its firſt line fronting the Schelde, its ſecond the Scarpe. The misfortune of Denain did not come alone, it was followed by the loſs of St. Amand, Mortagne, Haſnon, and in ſhort all the poſts upon the Schelde; ſo that the number of the allies made priſoners was quickly increaſed to 3315 men, officers included.

Marchiennes was a moſt important place, as well on account of its ſituation in impenetrable moraſſes, having only two ways leading thereto, as becauſe it was filled with the ammunition and proviſions deſigned for the army, and had beſides in it a magazine of reſerve, from whence it was intended that all the places in its neighbourhood ſhould be ſupplied with what they wanted. They had made a place of arms there, and the veſſels made uſe of on the Schelde and Scarpe were laid up there: it had on one ſide for its defence a ſtrong wall, on the other an entrenchment well paliſadoed, with a ditch and three half moons, ſo that it was

really

really thought capable of making a good defence; its ſtrong ſituation being alſo conſidered, which alone would have been ſufficient to have deterred a leſs enterprizing general than the Marſhal de Villars from expecting to reduce it in ſo ſhort a time as he publicly gave out he would reduce it in, which nevertheleſs he effected, his troops being now of their general's opinion, that they were able to do any thing. Count Broglio appeared before the place on the 25th with a conſiderable body of troops, and ſummoned Brigadier Berkhoffer to ſurrender; but he having a good garriſon, and having alſo received a conſiderable reinforcement from Douay, refuſed, and at the ſame time ſent the count word that he did not doubt of defending the place till it was relieved. Upon this Marſhal Monteſquieu deſired leave to command this ſiege in perſon, which Marſhal Villars very readily granted. He arrived there the next day, and, having attacked in perſon a redoubt which covered the Scarpe and bilanders, made himſelf maſter of it in ſpight of a vigorous reſiſtance. On the 27th the trenches were opened at two attacks, and on the 29th they fired with twenty pieces of cannon upon the place. On the 30th Marſhal Villars arrived in perſon with eleven battalions, and, though the breaches were very indifferent, made preparations for an immediate aſſault. Brigadier Berkhoffer, conceiving it to be of no uſe to have himſelf and his garriſon cut to pieces, beat the chamade, and offered to ſurrender upon honourable terms; but Marſhal Villars anſwered him roundly, that, according to the modern cuſtom of making war, he could grant him no terms but thoſe of ſurrendering priſoners of war: upon this hoſtilities were renewed; but, the breaches becoming practicable, the brigadier was forced to accept of the terms offered him, and to ſurrender himſelf and his garriſon, conſiſting of about 5000 men, priſoners. The marſhal however, to ſoften it as much as poſſible, ſuffered them to march through the breach with all military

tary honours; a poor recompence for the mighty loſs they ſuſtained, in giving up all their magazines into the hands of the enemy. The French took here a hundred bilanders, excluſive of thoſe which had on-board them three hundred thouſand weight of powder, and which the Dutch commiſſary cauſed to be ſunk in the Scarpe before the ſiege; a hundred pieces of fine cannon; three hundred waggons with their harneſſes; the hoſpital of the army; with bombs, grenadoes, bullets, muſket-ball, powder, corn, meal, hams, bacon, cheeſe, beer, wine, brandy, ladders, hatchets, &c. ſufficient for two ſieges; and, what was alſo of conſiderable advantage to the French, a great number of horſes both for draught and ſervice.

The ſucceſs of Marſhal Villars in theſe important enterprizes on Denain and Marchiennes changed the face of affairs in Europe, as well as the converſation of politicians. The French affected to magnify the conſequence of the Engliſh forces in the confederate army: Marſhal Villars is reported to have called them the brazen wall of the allies, and Monſ. de Torcy could not help obſerving, and leaving that obſervation to poſterity, by committing it to writing, "That the confederates might now ſee what they had loſt by her majeſty's withdrawing her forces, and what value they ought to put upon a nation which carried victory wherever its arms appeared." At the Hague and at London, the loſs of the Duke of Marlborough was by many thought greater than that of the Britiſh troops. His grace had never been deceived, and this to many ſeemed an irrefragable proof that it was impoſſible he ſhould; from whence they inferred, that the buſineſs of Denain would never have happened if he had commanded. The French admit this, and Monſieur de Quincy, in his recapitulation of the events of this campaign, attributes the ſucceſs of his moſt Chriſtian majeſty's arms as much to the over-ſight of the confederate generals, as to the ſkill and vigilance of Marſhal Villars.

Villars. But, if the credit of a general depends not on events, but on his acting in the beſt manner poſſible, conſidering the ſituation of things, thus much will be due to M. Villars, if Prince Eugene had ſuſpected his deſign on Denain, that ſuſpicion would have put an end to all the marſhal's ſchemes; there was therefore ſome merit in taking ſuch precautions as kept his highneſs ſtill in his firſt opinion, that the marſhal intended to attack him in his camp, which the march of M. de Coigny, with his thirty ſquadrons, effectually did. Some people in Holland were for throwing the whole weight of this unfortunate buſineſs on the Earl of Albemarle; ſo that nobleman thought fit to publiſh a very exact account of the action, to clear his own reputation; beſides which, there appeared about the ſame time a letter from the field deputies to the States, and a letter from Prince Eugene to a miniſter of ſtate, which entirely cleared the Earl of Albemarle.

Prince Eugene, notwithſtanding the misfortune of Denain, reſolved to carry on the ſiege of Londrecies; but all the proviſions from Mons were ſo long coming, that the ſoldiers had not a morſel of bread for ſix days, ſo that his highneſs was conſtrained to think of raiſing the ſiege, and on the 29th accordingly ſent away all the heavy artillery to Queſnoy. On the 2d of Auguſt he decamped, and marched towards Mons. On the 8th he encamped between Seckleis and Ferin, whither on the 12th he cauſed a new train of artillery to be brought from Liſle and Menin.

Villars in the mean time was meditating new conqueſts; and, as a place of the greateſt conſequence at that time, reſolved to begin with Douay, againſt the advice of moſt of his general officers, who were afraid of undertaking ſo hazardous an enterprize in ſight of a great army commanded by Prince Eugene. It is certain that Douay would not have coſt much time if general Hompeſch had not truſted more to himſelf than to any body elſe. As ſoon as he heard of the misfortune at

Marchiennes, he took all imaginable precautions for the ſecurity of Douay, the works of which had been lately conſiderably increaſed, and by an odd ſort of management the garriſon leſſened, with this further miſchief, that there was neither ammunition nor proviſion for the garriſon that was left. Hompeſch inſtantly recalled all the guards poſted in his neighbourhood, he drew three battalions out of Liſle and Bethune, he cauſed proviſions to be brought in from all ſides, and by his induſtry procured a conſiderable ſupply of ammunition; he reinforced the garriſon of fort Scarpe to five hundred men; and, having augmented his own to nine battalions, though miſerably incomplete, he applied himſelf with the utmoſt diligence to put the place into a poſture of defence. He appointed officers who were beſt acquainted with that ſervice, to act as engineers, of whom he had few in the place; and, having ſettled commiſſaries to take care of the proviſions, he cauſed a certain quantity of bread, meat, and tobacco, to be given daily to every ſoldier, to prevent, as far as in him lay, their feeling any ſeverity during the ſiege. His precautions ſtood him in good ſtead, though his apprehenſions were by ſome thought too great; but on the eighth of Auguſt every body was undeceived by Marſhal Villars's cauſing the place to be inveſted. By an inadvertency ſcarce to be paralleled, the lines made uſe of by the allies were all this time left undemoliſhed, ſo that the marſhal had nothing to do but to take poſſeſſion of them. Where they were weak, viz. from Pont Arache to Pont Auby, he cauſed new retrenchments to be thrown up, which he lined with his beſt troops, Count Albergotti commanding the right, and Count Broglio the left. The French opened the trenches before Douay and fort Scarpe both at a time, and not without very conſiderable loſs. Hompeſch made a very gallant defence, and ſupplied the French ſo well with water in their trenches, that till fort Scarpe was reduced they laboured under terrible difficulties.

After the taking fort Scarpe, and Prince Eugene's retiring out of its neighbourhood, Villars, finding no farther occaſion for them, withdrew his troops out of the plains of Lens, placing his general quarters on the ſide of Valenciennes, and preſſing the ſiege of Douay more warmly than ever. On the 7th of September he reſolved to attack the three lunettes and the covered way, in order to which he made uſe of the bridges taken at Marchiennes, without which he could never have effected it. All things being adjuſted for the attack, M. Albergotti and the Marquis de Silly went to the left to ſerve under the Chevalier de Broglio, that the troops might be encouraged by their preſence. Marſhal Villars was preſent himſelf in the centre, with M. le Duc and the Marſhal de Monteſquieu. The troops fought with a great deal of bravery, though they were in ſome places up to their ſhoulders in water; but M. Hompeſch, who was alſo there in perſon, made ſuch a terrible defence, that, after loſing four captains of grenadiers, and as many hundred men, the French were forced to retire. As ſoon as the action was over, the Marſhal, having received advice that the allies had paſſed the Schelde at Tournay, put himſelf inſtantly at the head of the greateſt part of the forces, and, having paſſed the ſame river at Valenciennes, left the care of the ſiege to M. Albergotti. The day after the Marſhal's departure, M. Albergotti attacked and made himſelf maſter of a redoubt on the left, upon which Count Hompeſch, apprehending the place would be infallibly carried by aſſault, beat the chamade at ten o'clock in the morning, and ſent out hoſtages. On advice of this, the Marſhal returned in perſon to the ſiege, where he was informed that M. Hompeſch demanded the ſame terms that had been given to M. Albergotti when he commanded this place. The marſhal ſaid he was ſorry that Prince Eugene had ſet him ſuch a leſſon, ſince the law of repriſals was to fall on an officer of ſuch merit; but, conſidering the treatment

the garriſon of Queſnoy had received, M. Hompeſch could not be ſurpriſed that he inſiſted on making him and his garriſon priſoners of war. M. Hompeſch, having conſidered attentively the condition things were in, accepted theſe conditions, hard as they were; the marſhal, however, ſuffered all the officers of diſtinction to go for ſix months on their parole. The garriſon was reduced to ſeventeen hundred men, though there had been but twenty-four days open trenches; whereas M. Albergotti kept that place fifty-four days, and obtained an honourable capitulation at laſt. At Douay the French found a great quantity of artillery, 200,000 weight of powder, but no ball.

Two days before the ſurrender of Douay, Queſnoy was inveſted by M. de Coigny and two other lieutenant-generals; on the 10th they were joined by the Marſhals Villars and Monteſquieu. Prince Eugene, having paſſed the Schelde on the 7th at Tournay, paſſed the Trouille on the 10th, and encamped at St. Guillain, with his left at Malplaquet; but finding, that, in ſpite of all his diligence, Queſnoy was inveſted, he remained there for ſome time a ſpectator of the ſiege. M. d'Ivoy commanded in the place, a French refugee, but a major-general in the Dutch ſervice. He had ſeven battalions under his command, and a very conſiderable number of bombardiers, cannoneers, and other perſons belonging to the train, who were of great uſe to him during the ſiege. As he had fifty pieces of heavy cannon in the town, and a prodigious quantity of ammunition, he was not at all frugal, but thundered on the French with theſe and twenty mortars, in ſuch a manner that they loſt a great number of men. The French having provided themſelves with a great train from Valenciennes and other places, a warmer ſiege was never ſeen. In the night of the 29th, Villars cauſed the two lunettes which defended the covered-ways, and the two covered-ways alſo, to be attacked; to this end he drew out all the grena-

diers belonging to the regiments, entering into and leaving the trenches; but, when the ſignal was given for beginning the attack, by firing a bomb in the centre, the French engineers ſprung two mines, one under each of the lunettes, which threw two hundred and thirty Dutch officers and ſoldiers into the air, wounded many who were poſted on the covered-ways, and left them open to the French troops, who immediately began the attack. The beſieged, notwithſtanding, defended theſe poſts with great reſolution, ſo that it coſt the French twenty officers and a hundred private men, before they carried them. Marſhal Villars was all this time preſent in perſon; and apprehending that the Dutch would return in the night, and attempt driving his grenadiers from their lodgments, he remained upon the ſpot till one in the morning, notwithſtanding that the ſleeve of his coat had been carried away by the burſting of a bomb within half a yard of him. It is certain, that the marſhal's apprehenſions would not have been in vain, if the beſieged had been in any condition to have attacked his troops; but the hard duty they had ſuſtained left ſo few men able to mount their guards, that they found it impracticable to undertake any thing; and therefore on the 4th of October, perceiving the breach almoſt practicable, they beat the chamade, and demanded honourable conditions; to which the marſhal anſwered, that, if they did not deliver him up a gate in an hour, he would grant them no conditions at all. The officers of the garriſon inſiſted that the great quantity of artillery and ammunition in the place, which would all fall into his hands, upon their ſurrender, deſerved better treatment; to which he replied, that he had all the regard in the world for their artillery and ammunition, otherwiſe he ſhould have made the ſiege of Mons inſtead of viſiting them. In fine, he promiſed them that the ſoldiers ſhould not be ſtripped, that their officers ſhould keep their ſwords, and that they ſhould have leave to go either

either to Holland or England for six months upon their parole; which terms being accepted, the place was evacuated on the 5th, and the garrison, consisting of fifteen hundred men, disarmed and sent prisoners into France.—The French took here, according to their own account, a hundred and sixteen pieces of heavy cannon, a vast number of smaller pieces, and a hundred and forty mortars, a vast quantity of bombs, bullets, and grenades, and 500,000 weight of powder.—Marshal Villars immediately sent part of the heavy artillery to Bouchain, the siege of which was presently undertaken; the remaining part of the artillery was sent to Valenciennes, that it might be out of danger. Prince Eugene in the mean time made a motion on the 29th of September, and encamped behind the Trouille, having his right at Guevry, his left at Grand Rieng de Cambries, and his centre at Rouvrois, three leagues from Mons, and at the same distance from Maubeuge.

In the night between the 3d and 4th of October, the partizan la Rue, with a detachment from the garrison of Ostend, marched to surprise fort Knoque; this was a design of Prince Eugene's, and the only one which took effect this campaign; for M. la Rue did his business effectually, he cut the throats of the centinels at the barrier, surprised the commandant and his little garrison, and took possession of the place.—The French attempted to recover it, by sending the governor of Ypres with two thousand men to make a show of investing it, but in reality to tempt la Rue, by the offer of 10,000 crowns in ready money, a pension of 5000 livres per annum, and a regiment of dragoons, to deliver up the place: to which he answered, that he would not lose the honour of this exploit for all the preferments in France. The next day General Murray moved that way with his flying camp, whereby the possession of that place was secured to the allies.

Marshal Villars had an earnest desire to close the campaign with the taking of Bouchain; but was at the

the ſame time very deſirous of ſparing his troops, which were already exceedingly haraſſed with the ſieges they had made. To anſwer both theſe ends, he drew together forty battalions which had been in garriſon during the ſieges of Douay and Queſnoy; theſe he replaced from the army, and with the forty battalions firſt mentioned, and twenty-four ſquadrons, M. d'Alegre inveſted Bouchain on the 2d of October. As for the grand army, M. de Villars diſpoſed things ſo well, that it remained in the camp at Queſnoy, its head-quarters only being changed. M. Groveſtein, who commanded the troops in their memorable expedition into France, was governor of the place, in which there were four battalions, and all things neceſſary for making a long defence. The trenches were opened between the 9th and 10th in two places, in the preſence of the Marſhal de Villars, who did not ſtir till the workmen were covered. On the 13th, as he was giving directions in the trenches, a ſoldier was killed juſt before him. On the 16th he received advice that the allies had ſent a great body of horſe to attack his left wing on their general forage. He mounted immediately, and at the head of twenty ſquadrons advanced to their aſſiſtance; but finding the report falſe, he returned inſtantly to the ſiege, and made the ſame night all the neceſſary preparations for attacking the covered-way, which was performed the next day at noon in the preſence of the Marſhal d'Alegre and all the general officers. The beſieged made a very gallant reſiſtance; but, after the loſs of a great number of men on both ſides, the French made two lodgements on the covered-way. On the 18th thoſe lodgements were perfected, the breach widened, and the ditch filled up, ſo that all things were now ready for a general aſſault. M. de Groveſtein, to prevent this, beat the chamade, and demanded honourable conditions, but at laſt conſented to ſurrender himſelf and his garriſon priſoners of war.—The ſiege of Bouchain coſt the French but ten days, though

though it was better fortified than when the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene took it after twenty-three days open trenches. The garrison were sent prisoners into France: M. de Groveſtein had leave given him to go to Holland on his parole. The garrison of Bouchain completed forty-five battalions of the confederate troops at this time prisoners in France. Immediately after this siege both armies separated; Prince Eugene returned to the Hague, and M. Villars to Paris.

Since even before the commencement of the campaign, peace was in a manner concluded between France, Spain, and England, a suspension of arms took place in Catalonia, and on the side of Portugal, as far as it concerned the English nation. The Earl of Portmore disbanded the Portugueſe regiments in English pay; and Vice-Admiral Jennings, according to the orders he had received, took on-board the English forces which had served in Spain, and for some time past had poſſeſſed themselves of Terragona, and left the neceſſary troops in Gibraltar and Port Mahon.

In Spain, all the emperor's hopes were placed on Marshal Staremberg.—The Duke de Vendome quitted Madrid on the 9th of April, and went to Valencia, where he reviewed the troops quartered thereabouts; from thence he went to Tortosa, in order to assemble the army; but going unfortunately to Vinaroz, which is near the Mediterranean, he ate there some bad fish, which threw him into his old distemper of an indigeſtion, of which he died on the 11th of June, in the fifty-eighth year of his age. He was the son of Lewis Duke de Vendome, an eccleſiaſtic, who had arrived at the honour of the cardinalate, and of Laura Mancini, niece to the famous Cardinal de Mazarin. The duke, of whom we are speaking, made his firſt campaign in 1672; he commanded the French king's armies in 1695; in 1697 he took Barcelona, though he had not troops enough to inveſt it, and notwithſtanding the Count de Velasco threw into it succours continually till

till the Duke de Vendome beat his army and drove him out of Catalonia. In 1702 he commanded the French army in Italy; in the years 1706 and 1707 he commanded in Flanders, and was the only French general who gained any reputation there. In the former year he hindered the allies from making any conqueſt, and in the latter he made a glorious retreat at Oudenarde, after the Duke of Burgundy had forced him to loſe the battle. In 1710 he went into Spain; and, to ſum up his character in few words, he always deſerved victory, and almoſt always atchieved it. The French owe all their reputation in Italy to him; to him Spain owed her ſafety, and the moſt Catholic king his crown. The King of Spain ordered his corpſe to be interred in the monaſtery of the Eſcurial; for, as he revered him living, he was deſirous of ſhewing the utmoſt regard to his memory after his death. But to return,

Immediately after the death of the Duke of Vendome, General Staremberg made an attempt upon Cervera; General Wetzel with four thouſand men had the conduct of this buſineſs, which ſucceeded very happily at firſt, the ſcaling ladders being fixed without any interruption; but, when the troops began to mount it, it appeared that the governor was appriſed of the ſcheme, for he immediately made ſuch a diſcharge both of his artillery and ſmall arms, as did terrible execution, and obliged the Germans to withdraw, leaving their ladders and two pieces of artillery behind them, this being the third time they had attempted that place. Count Staremberg ſoon after this diſpoſed all things for taking the field: his army was not very numerous, but his troops were in excellent order, and all the regiments complete.

King Philip, on the other hand, appointed, on the death of the Duke de Vendome, Prince Tſerclas de Tilly to command his army in Catalonia, and the Marquis de Valdecaſias to command in Arragon, but with inſtructions

inſtructions not to hazard his troops or to enter too ſuddenly on action.

Marſhal Staremberg perceiving, that with the Duke of Vendome the ſpirit of the Spaniſh army was in a manner deceaſed, began to act with greater vigour, diſpoſing his troops in ſuch a manner as to hold both Roſes and Gironne blocked up, and at the ſame time preſſed ſo hard on the advanced quarters of the Spaniſh troops, that they were obliged to abandon Cervera, and all that they poſſeſſed on the other ſide of the Segro, and to retire to Balaguer, in the beginning of the month of Auguſt. By the middle of the ſame month the marſhal had drawn a great corps of troops into the neighbourhood of Balaguer, and cauſed Montefiara to be attacked. The garriſon defended themſelves with great reſolution, but at length were made priſoners, and immediately ſhot; the reaſon of which being demanded by a trumpet from the Spaniſh army, the commanding officer anſwered, that it was in imitation of the Spaniards hanging the Miquelets, and that the one practice ſhould continue juſt as long as the other. At laſt the Prince Tſerclas de Tilly aſſembled the Spaniſh army, which conſiſted of fifty battalions and ſeventy-two ſquadrons, between the Xinca and the Segro, where he remained altogether on the defenſive, without attempting any thing. Marſhal Staremberg in the mean time ſent parties to ravage the frontiers of Valencia and Arragon, and did a great deal of miſchief, at the ſame time that his own quarters were ſecure by the ſhutting up of the garriſons of Gironne and Roſes. Towards the latter end of the campaign the marſhal made a briſk attempt upon the former, having firſt withdrawn the troops under General Wetzel, which formed the blockade, that the garriſon might be in the greater ſecurity. The troops employed on this occaſion were two thouſand choſen grenadiers, who were furniſhed with petards and ſcaling ladders. They were landed at a ſmall diſtance from

the town, and approached it without being perceived; they even made themſelves maſters of a ſmall guard poſted before the barrier of Caſtillon, but not till after a vigorous reſiſtance, which alarmed the governor and the garriſon; they then cut the barrier to pieces with their axes, and endeavoured to fix their petard to the gate of Caſtillon, while they ſcaled the walls on the other ſide, ſuppoſing that the garriſon would of courſe be commanded to the gate on the burſting of the petard; but in this they were miſtaken, for, the moon ſhining very bright, the garriſon perceived their motions diſtinctly, fired upon them ſo briſkly, and attacked them between the palliſades and the wall ſo warmly, that after the loſs of two hundred men they were obliged to retire, and leave their petards and ſcaling ladders behind them.

By this time the meaſures taken by his moſt Chriſtian majeſty began to operate ſo forcibly, that Count Staremberg, finding the Portugueſe as well as Engliſh troops recalled, was conſtrained, in his turn, to abandon Cervera, and to retire towards Barcelona, of which the Prince Tſerclas de Tilly having notice, and that a Palatine regiment of horſe, which was reduced to a hundred and fifty men, was encamped at ſome diſtance from the army, he cauſed ſome ſquadrons to paſs the Segro with ſuch expedition, that they ſurrounded and made priſoners that regiment; ſuch were the events on this ſide. Let us now paſs to the tranſactions in Catalonia towards the frontiers of France.

The Marſhal Staremberg looked upon it as a thing out of doubt, that before the winter Gironne would fall into his hands, the rather becauſe there was a good garriſon therein, no leſs than twelve battalions, under the command of the Marquis de Brancas. All the roads leading thereto were not only ſecured with guards, but, where it was neceſſary, with retrenchments and artillery; at laſt General Staremberg ſeized Pontamaor on the river Ter, and ruined the mills which ſupplied

plied the town, General Wetzel lying near it with ſix thouſand regular troops and eight thouſand Miquelets well armed. Certain it is, that never were people in a more miſerable condition than the garriſon and inhabitants of Gironne, nor could the place have been preſerved perhaps by any other officer in the world, than the officer who commanded there. He had before the blockade treated the people with the utmoſt humanity and kindneſs, ſuffering his ſoldiers to help them in repairing their houſes, and ſending the townſmen preſents whenever his parties were ſo lucky as to take any thing from the enemy, ſo that when the blockade commenced the inhabitants brought out all their proviſions, and conſented to ſhare them equally with the garriſon, upon which the Marquis de Brancas delivered them arms, and put one of the gates into their hands, which action of confidence made them endure as ſevere a famine as ever people felt, with this mortifying circumſtance, that hardly any relief could be hoped for. The governor with much ado conveyed a ſervant of his into France, charged with a letter to the Count de Fiennes, who commanded in Rouſſillon, wherein he acquainted him with the miſerable condition of Gironne, and earneſtly intreated him to attempt ſomething before it was too late; that general immediately drew together eighteen battalions and a few ſquadrons, with which he entered the Lampourdan, having a ſmall train of eight field-pieces; but, when he was advanced within half a league of Gironne, he found himſelf ſtopped ſhort by a ſtrong retrenchment, behind which General Wetzel lay encamped with ten thouſand men. It was the 27th of October before the count could reach this place, and now he was advanced ſo far, he ſaw plainly that he muſt be obliged to return; however he ſaid quite otherwiſe in his camp, declaring that he came with a reſolution to relieve Gironne, and that he would force General Wetzel in his retrenchments; accordingly he diſpoſed

every thing for that purpoſe, cannonading the German troops four days and nights ſucceſſively. In the mean time he ſent fifty fat bullocks and a hundred ſheep, and four hundred foot to recruit the battalions, the whole eſcorted by three hundred horſe; and this convoy had the good luck to ford the river, and get ſafe into Gironne, of which when the Count de Fiennes had advice, he retired quietly into his former quarters; this, though a very ſeaſonable, was a very ſmall ſupply, and could only have preſerved the place ſome ſmall time if other meaſures had not been taken. Marſhal Staremberg in the interim attempted ſeveral times to ſurprize both the forts and the city, but the garriſon behaved very bravely, ſo that they were conſtantly repulſed, and things remained much as they were when Marſhal Berwick arrived at Perpignan. On the 9th of December he gave his orders with his uſual quickneſs and ſecrecy, and, having ſent a great quantity of all proviſions by ſea to Roſes, he marched on the 26th from Perpignan with an army of about twenty thouſand men. On his entering Catalonia he cauſed ſeveral thouſands of manifeſtoes, printed in Spaniſh, to be diſtributed, forbidding all the ſubjects of the crown of Spain to ſupply, either with money or proviſions, the Miquelets who were in arms againſt their lawful ſovereign, under pain of death. He executed theſe ordinances as he marched along with great ſeverity, cauſing alſo all the Miquelets that fell into his hands to be hanged immediately; which, with the remembrance of his ſeverity in Arragon and Valencia, frightened the poor people ſo much that they abandoned all the advanced poſts, and ſuffered him to advance quietly to Figueres. On the laſt day of the month he quitted the road to Gironne, marched cloſe by the ſea-ſide, and, paſſing the river Ter without oppoſition at Torella, he gave the Marſhal Staremberg to apprehend that his communication with Barcelona would be cut off; he ſent orders to his troops to abandon their retrenchments, and to march

march directly to Oſtalric, to prevent its being inveſted by the Marſhal Berwick; that general, having nothing more in view than to relieve Gironne, ſent the great convoy he had provided thither, which was received with prodigious joy. Thus ended this blockade, which had given the court of Spain a great deal of trouble. As ſoon as this was performed, Marſhal Berwick ſent out parties againſt the Miquelets, of whom great numbers were made priſoners; but then he publiſhed a new manifeſto containing the reaſons of his former ſeverity, and promiſing a general pardon to all who would lay down their arms, and live quietly for the future. This ordinance was publiſhed in the Caſtilian as well as Catalan tongue; and the marſhal, having provided each of his priſoners with a large packet of theſe manifeſtoes, ſet them all at liberty when they leaſt expected mercy. He obliged all the villages in the neighbourhood to carry great quantities of proviſions to Gironne; he afterwards changed the garriſon, and ſent the Marquis de Brancas nine freſh battalions, and a large ſum of money; after which he returned to France, having rendered a moſt acceptable ſervice, as well to the moſt Chriſtian king as to his Catholic majeſty.

The Engliſh plenipotentiaries at Utrecht, inſiſted, as a preliminary ſtep to peace, that Dunkirk ſhould be put into poſſeſſion of Queen Anne, which being agreed to, after ſome equivocation and delay on the part of France, Sir John Leake, who was now at the head of the admiralty, was ordered to convoy a body of troops thither, commanded by Lieutenant-general Hill, for that purpoſe; which ſervice being performed, on the 8th of July, 1712, the fleet returned into the Downs.

Sir Thomas Hardy commanded the ſquadron which was ſtationed in the ſoundings; in which ſervice he fell in with ſix French ſhips and a tartane. Five of theſe he took: namely, the Griffin, a king's ſhip, but in the ſervice of the merchants, bound for Vera Cruz, and

and laden with bale-goods; the St. Eſprit, of thirty-ſix guns, and one hundred and ſeventy-five men, alſo laden with bale-goods, and bound for Cadiz; ſhe unfortunately blew up, and only the captain and about thirty-five of her men were ſaved; the Adventure, of Havre de Grace, carrying twelve guns and forty men, bound for Newfoundland; the maſter of this veſſel produced the queen's paſs, and was thereupon ſuffered to purſue his voyage; the Incomparable, of ſixteen guns, bound for Martinico; and the Ruby, of twelve guns, bound for St. Domingo. The ſhip that eſcaped carried eight guns. Although theſe captures were made before any orders for a ſuſpenſion of hoſtilities, yet ſo complaiſant was adminiſtration to their new friends, the French, that after a long ſuit to obtain the condemnation of theſe veſſels as legal prizes, the captors were obliged to accept of a ſum of money far ſhort of what they had a right to.

Vice-admiral Baker, in cruiſing off Cape St. Maries in the month of February, met with a large Spaniſh ſhip of ſixty guns, which he ran aſhore upon the coaſt of Portugal, the wind blowing too hard to venture out the boats, ſo that the inhabitants of the country, taking advantage of this ſituation, boarded and plundered her. She was freighted with ſugar, cocoa, ſnuff, hides, and twenty thouſand pieces of eight. The vice-admiral preſented a memorial to the court of Portugal, ſetting forth his right to the effects which had been thus clandeſtinely purloined, and requeſting that they might be delivered up; but the Portugueſe miniſtry, who were never heartily in the intereſt of Great Britain, evaded this demand by urging that the goods were ſo effectually ſecreted, that it was out of the power of government to recover them. After this event, Baker cruiſed in the latitude of the Weſtern Iſlands, for the fleet expected from the Brazils; being overtaken by a ſtorm, he was obliged to return to Liſbon; but the Portugueſe fleet arrived ſafely in the Tagus the day before the admiral returned thither.

Sir

Sir John Jennings joined the Dutch vice-admiral in the Mediterranean in May, having ſix thouſand five hundred men on-board of tranſports, which were landed in Spain. By orders from Lord Bolingbroke, the admiral permitted a large French fleet of corn ſhips to paſs by him unmoleſted, every one of which he had it in his power to take. Whilſt the admiral continued in the Mediterranean, he eſcorted the empreſs with her retinue from Barcelona to Genoa, and conveyed thirty thouſand men from Catalonia to Naples. He afterwards carried over the Duke and Ducheſs of Savoy, from Villa Franca to their new kingdom of Sicily.

Notwithſtanding the fruitleſs iſſue of the expedition againſt Canada, yet the naval commander thereof, ſtanding well with the miniſtry, was made choice of, to ſucceed Commodore Littleton in the Weſt-Indies. On the 28th day of April, 1712, Sir Hovenden Walker ſailed from St. Helen's, having a fleet of about one hundred merchant ſhips under his convoy. On the 24th of June he arrived at Antigua, where a violent animoſity ſubſiſted between the governor and the inhabitants, which the admiral left in the ſame condition as he found it. On the 6th of July, he arrived at Jamaica, and ſoon after had advice that the French had made a deſcent on Antigua. In order to retaliate the injury intended by the expedition againſt Canada, the French ſet on foot one againſt the Leeward Iſlands. M. Caſſard ſailed from Toulon with a ſtrong ſquadron. He firſt attacked the iſland of St. Jago, which is the principal one of the cluſter of iſlands called Cape de Verd. He plundered it of every thing that could be conveyed away, and then blew up the fort. He arrived at Martinico in July, 1712, where he collected three thouſand men, and proceeded with them to Montſerrat, and, having driven the inhabitants to inacceſſible fortreſſes in the centre of the iſland, his troops ravaged the reſt of the ſettlement for ſome days; but, hearing that ſome Engliſh ſhips were on their way to the relief

of

of the place, he haſtily re-embarked his troops and ſtood over to the continent, where he made a deſcent at Surinam, and obliged the inhabitants to purchaſe their ſafety at the expence of eight hundred thouſand pieces of eight. All this while Sir Hovenden Walker remained inactive at Jamaica, where a dreadful hurricane, which happened on the 29th of Auguſt, not only deſolated the iſland, but did conſiderable damage to the men of war that lay there. Soon after which, an order arrived from England for the admiral to return home, after having proclaimed a ceſſation of arms.

The depredations made by Caſſard in the Weſt-Indies, gave great offence to the Engliſh plenipotentiaries engaged at Utrecht in adjuſting the terms of peace, and would have led a miniſtry, who felt properly for the honour of their country, immediately to have broken off all negotiation; but thoſe who had now the guidance of the helm of ſtate ſought peace at any rate, with all the avidity of a proſtrate power. The French in this inſtance, as in every other, were not at a loſs to evade the charge. The court of Verſailles denied having authorized Caſſard to act in the manner he had done, and declared that his inſtructions were only general; that he had obeyed them, and that proper ſatisfaction ſhould be given; which, however, was afterwards forgot.

Towards the cloſe of the year 1712, the Duke d'Aumont arrived at London in character of ambaſſador from the court of Verſailles.

On the 31ſt of March, 1713, the long-protracted conferences at Utrecht terminated in a treaty of peace and commerce, which was firſt ſigned by the miniſters of the Queen of Great Britain and thoſe of France; after theſe, the miniſter of the Duke of Savoy, and thoſe of Portugal and Pruſſia, ſigned alſo. The States of the United Provinces were the laſt who ſigned, the French plenipotentiaries having inſiſted that the miniſters of ſuch princes as their maſter had acknowledged

ledged as ſovereigns, ſhould precede the ambaſſadors of a republic.

By this treaty it was ſtipulated, that Philip V. now acknowledged King of Spain, ſhould renounce all right to the crown of France, the union of two ſuch powerful kingdoms being thought dangerous to the liberties of Europe. It was agreed, that the Duke of Berry, Philip's brother, and after him in ſucceſſion, ſhould alſo renounce his right to the crown of Spain, in caſe he became king of France. It was ſtipulated, that the Duke of Savoy ſhould poſſeſs the iſland of Sicily with the title of king; together with Feneſtrelles, and places on the continent; which increaſe of dominion was in ſome meaſure made out of the ſpoils of the French monarchy. The Dutch had the barrier granted them which they ſo much deſired; and, if the crown of France was deprived of ſome dominions to enrich the Duke of Savoy, on the other hand the houſe of Auſtria was taxed to ſupply the wants of the Hollanders, who were put in poſſeſſion of the ſtrongeſt towns in Flanders. The fortifications of Dunkirk were demoliſhed. Spain gave up Gibraltar and the iſland of Minorca. France reſigned her pretenſions to Hudſon's Bay, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland; but was left in poſſeſſion of Cape-Breton, and the liberty of drying fiſh upon the ſhore. Among the articles glorious to the Britiſh nation, their ſetting free the French Proteſtants confined in the priſons and galleys for their religion, was not the leaſt meritorious. For the emperor it was ſtipulated, that he ſhould poſſeſs the kingdom of Naples, the duchy of Milan, and the Spaniſh Netherlands. The King of Pruſſia was to have Upper Guelder; and a time was fixed for the emperor's acceding to theſe articles, as he had obſtinately refuſed to aſſiſt at the negociation, and declared himſelf reſolved to continue the war.

The treaty of navigation and commerce, between Great-Britain and France, conſiſted of forty-one ar-

 ticles,

ticles, the eighth and ninth of which were the moſt important. By theſe the high duties levied in Britiſh ports, upon all goods and merchandize imported from France, were agreed to be taken off; and all the privileges reſpecting commerce were to be allowed to the ſubjects of the French king, which the moſt favoured foreign nation enjoyed. The general tarif made in France in the year 1664, was agreed ſhould again take place.

This year was alſo remarkable for an attempt of the Scottiſh peers and commons to diſſolve the union. During the debates on this ſubject, the Earl of Peterborough endeavoured to prove the impoſſibility of diſſolving the treaty, which he compared to a marriage, that, being once contracted, could not be diſſolved by any power on earth. He obſerved, that though England, who in the national marriage muſt be ſuppoſed to repreſent the huſband, had in ſome inſtances been unkind to the lady, ſhe ought not preſently to ſue for a divorce; and added, when the union was termed a mere political expedient, that it could not have been made more ſolemn, unleſs, like the ten commandments, it had come from heaven. The Duke of Argyle, who had originally promoted the union, now declared againſt it, and ſaid that, unleſs it were diſſolved, he did not long expect to have either property left in Scotland or liberty in England. By ſome other peers it was alleged, that the union had not produced its intended effect; that it had been deſigned to promote friendſhip between the two nations; but, ſo far from anſwering the purpoſe, the animoſities between them were never ſo great as then; and, if they were ſeparated again, they would be better friends. This motion was overruled in the houſe; but the diſcontent of the people ſtill continued, and addreſſes were prepared throughout the kingdom, and matters were in danger of coming to the worſt extremities, when the attempt of the pretender

pretender in 1715 ſo divided the minds of the people, that no unanimous efforts could ever afterwards be made; though the union was long generally conſidered, and ſtill is by ſome individuals, as a national grievance.

The French, who were very deſirous of peace, flattered themſelves for ſome time that his Imperial majeſty, when he found himſelf left alone, would accept of the terms ſtipulated for him by his allies. In this however they were deceived; for the firſt of June, 1713, paſſed without the emperor's ſhewing any inclination to accept the offers made him. It would doubtleſs be a very difficult thing to give an exact detail of the reaſons which induced his Imperial majeſty to act in this manner. Thoſe which have been generally received for ſuch are theſe:—That he was perſuaded another campaign might produce him ſome good, and could not poſſibly detriment him much; the evacuation of Catalonia and the neutrality ſtipulated for Italy enabled him to bring a conſiderable body of freſh troops to act upon the Rhine, where, if any lucky accident fell out in his favour, France muſt of courſe have bid higher for peace. In the mean time, either the King of France might have died, or the Queen of Great-Britain, both of whom were very infirm; in either caſe the emperor would have thought his affairs much mended; at the worſt, Prince Eugene doubted not of making amends for any ill luck which might befal the Imperial arms, by concluding a peace at the cloſe of the year with the Marſhal d'Harcourt, who he ſuppoſed would have commanded the army on the Rhine. However it was, another campaign was reſolved on, and the princes and ſtates of the empire prepared for it in the uſual manner, by providing a large ſtock of promiſes, and nothing more. The French on the other hand ſet on foot ſome private intrigues in Germany, which did not at all quicken the ſupplies. At laſt the remainder of a

million of crowns promiſed by the diet of Ratiſbon was advanced, four millions more were directed to be paid into the military cheſt of the empire, and the city of Amſterdam advanced another million, for which the States bound themſelves.

His moſt Chriſtian majeſty gave early inſtructions for providing every thing neceſſary for his troops upon the Rhine, and private inſtructions were ſent to M. Voiſin, ſecretary of war, to be very diligent in getting together whatever might be wanted for a ſiege. M. d'Harcourt excuſed himſelf from commanding on account of his health; and therefore Marſhal Villars was named in his ſtead, and Marſhal Bezons appointed to aſſiſt him; the latter went early to the army in order that it might be aſſembled in time, and that every thing might be ready for action when Viliars arrived. That nothing however might be left untried for the bringing on a ſpeedy peace, the Marſhal de Bezons ſent two companies of miners to Old Briſac, and as many to fort Kheil, with orders, as he pretended, to blow up the fortifications of thoſe places; ſo that, if they were delivered up to the empire, they might be no longer of any uſe. This ſtratagem however did not take effect; another compaign was reſolved on in Germany, and the French, whether they would or no, were obliged to take the field.

Prince Eugene reſolved to have three armies upon the Rhine, one between Cologne and Coblentz, another between Coblentz and Mentz, the third in the lines of Etlingen. The troops poſted in the neighbourhood of Mentz threw up a new line; the Imperial army which had ſerved in Flanders returned into Germany; and Prince Eugene came to Mulberg to command them in perſon, with a deſign, as ſoon as things were ready, to paſs the Rhine.

The Marſhal de Villars arrived in the beginning of June in the French army. He eaſily penetrated the prince's

prince's design of passing the Rhine at Philipsburg, upon which he dispatched orders to the Chevalier d'Asfeld to pass that river at fort Louis, with the body of troops he commanded, and to post himself before Sellingen. On the fourth of June the marshal gave orders to Count Broglio to march towards Philipsburgh, whilst himself set out for Fort Louis, where he joined d'Asfeld, and in the evening took the road of Rastadt; but he quickly returned post to Lauterbourg, whence he marched to support Broglio, who had marched with such expedition, that, when he was joined by the marshal next day, the whole French army appeared with its front towards Philipsburg, having Landau in its rear, whereby all succours were cut off from the latter, which was soon after invested by Marshal Bezons, Villars commanding in person the army of observation.

Prince Alexander of Wirtemberg, who commanded in Landau, had taken all necessary precautions for for making a vigorous defence. He foresaw, that, if the war continued, France would undoubtedly besiege this place; he therefore added several new works. He had ammunition and provision in abundance, and a good garrison. The trenches were opened between the twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth of June, and the siege was carried on with great vigour. Prince Eugene in the mean time sent courier after courier to the diet of Ratisbon, and made use of every expedient he could think of to quicken the princes and states of Germany; of a hundred and eighty thousand men, of which the army should have consisted, he had not above a third, and these he was forced to divide; so that it was impossible for him to undertake any thing against the besiegers.

The Prince of Wirtemberg, perceiving that there was no appearance of Prince Eugene's coming to his relief, as he had been promised, resolved not to let things come to extremity, and therefore beat the chamade

chamade on the 19th on July. Hoſtages being exchanged, it was propoſed that the ſame terms ſhould be given to the Prince of Wirtemberg as had been given by Marſhal Tallard in the year 1703. Villars anſwered roundly, that he would hear of no other terms than ſurrendering priſoners of war. He ſaid that Prince Eugene had been the author of this practice in the laſt campaign, and that he would do himſelf the honour to comply exactly with the rules ſet him by ſo great a general. Upon this the hoſtages were recalled, and hoſtilities recommenced. On the twentieth however the beſieged hung out a white flag. The Prince of Wirtemberg came out of the place about ten in the morning, and ſigned the articles of capitulation about twelve, by which he and his garriſon became priſoners of war, himſelf having leave to go to Prince Eugene in order to juſtify his conduct. The garriſon conſiſted at the beginning of the ſiege of eight thouſand five hundred men, of which there marched out but four thouſand five hundred: it laſted fifty-ſix days open trenches. There were found in it ſixty pieces of cannon, eighteen mortars, a vaſt quantity of bombs and bullets, but very little powder, the magazine blowing up a few days before the place was ſurrendered.

Landau being loſt, Prince Eugene applied himſelf with the utmoſt induſtry to prevent the enemy's making any new conqueſts; with this view he diſpoſed ſeveral corps of troops in the neighbourhood of the places moſt expoſed: he had particularly cauſed ſeventeen thouſand men to take poſſeſſion of an intrenched camp in the neighbourhood of Friburg, under command of General Vaubonne; but in ſpite of all this care he was deceived. Marſhal Villars took ſuch meaſures, that, while Prince Eugene was obliged to remain in the lines of Etlingen by the Marſhal de Beſons, himſelf, at the head of a great body of troops, joined a detachment commanded by Count

Count du Bourg, and ſurprized General Vaubonne in his intrenchments: the buſineſs was quickly over; the Germans took the advantage of the night to ſave themſelves, and the French, with the loſs of fifty men, became maſters of the intrenchments. The Germans had, it ſeems, a fort and new lines within three leagues of the place, whither they retired; but Villars following them with two thouſand grenadiers, four thouſand horſe, and twenty-eight battalions, Vaubonne, finding his men would not do their duty, was obliged to retire to Rotweil, whither Prince Eugene ſent him a reinforcement, and ſoon after joined him in perſon.

The way being now clear, M. Villars cauſed Fribourg to be inveſted, a place of great ſtrength, and ſtill greater importance. It is the capital of Upper Auſtria, ſeated on the banks of a little river called the Threſeim, in the midſt of a fertile plain at the foot of a mountain, where begins the chain of thoſe which are called the Black Mountains, four leagues from Briſac. This place was thrice taken by the Swedes, twice by the Marſhal de Horn, and the laſt time by the Duke de Weimar; afterwards it fell into the hands of the French, and was by them rendered one of the ſtrongeſt places in Germany. By the treaty of Nimeguen it was given up to Louis XIV. in exchange for Philipſbourg; but by the treaty of Ryſwick it was reſtored to the houſe of Auſtria. It had at that time four gates, and eight royal baſtions with half-moons, which covered their curtains. It is commanded by a mountain; but then there are four forts thereon which entirely cover it, and command one another. The firſt of theſe is the caſtle, which commands the whole town; above it is the Eagle fort, which commands the caſtle; above that the Star fort; and on the top of the mountain the fort of St. Peter, which commands them all; with outworks on every ſide of the mountain, contrived after the beſt manner poſſible, and in perfect good order. The garriſon conſiſted of fifteen battalions

lions and five hundred horſe, commanded by the Baron de Arſch. Marſhal Villars commanded this ſiege in perſon, and made all the diſpoſitions for it himſelf. If Prince Alexander of Wirtemberg was cenſured for too feeble a defence, nothing of this ſort could be imputed to the Baron de Arſch; from the moment the trenches were opened, he thundered on the beſiegers, fatigued them with continual ſallies, and, as Villars could not proceed by ſap here, he loſt a great number of men. He cauſed the city and the forts to be attacked at the ſame time: he went frequently into the trenches himſelf; and did all that man could do to encourage his troops. In the night between the twelfth and thirteenth of October, the Chevalier de Peſeux attacked the covered-way of the fort of Eſcargot, at the head of two companies of grenadiers and fifty dragoons. As ſoon as they approached the fort, the Germans abandoned it in a hurry; but the French had ſcarcely taken poſſeſſion of it before they were blown into the air, and a great number of them killed or wounded, the reſt were driven from their poſt; and though the Chevalier de Peſeux, at the head of a freſh body of troops, attacked it again, they were obliged to retire, though with much ado they made a lodgment on the glacis; about eight, de Peſeux returned a third time to the charge, with the whole regiment of grenadiers and other freſh troops, but in vain: the Marquis de Laval had his jaw beat to pieces, his regiment deſtroyed, and at length returned with only four grenadiers, without being able to effect any thing. The fourteenth of October the Marſhal de Villars ſpent in diſpoſing all things for a grand attack in the evening: thirty companies of grenadiers were deſtined to the attack, and they were ſupported by all the troops in the trenches. At ſix in the evening Marſhal Villars, with the princes of the blood, and a great train of general officers, entered the trenches; the ſignal being given, the grenadiers advanced. It ſo happened that the

Baron de Arſch, having no intelligence of this attack, had ſent out ſix hundred men to make a ſally; theſe ſix hundred were ſupported by another ſix hundred. As they marched in battalia, they were ſurpriſed to meet the French grenadiers; and the French grenadiers were as much ſurpriſed to meet them. The action was very briſk and bloody; but at laſt the beſieged were forced to retire into the covered-way with loſs. On the left the French gained ground but very hardly; the Germans made an obſtinate reſiſtance, and retired ſo ſlowly that the French and they mingled together, and began to ſtab and kill each other hand to hand. On the right, the Marquis de Vivans attacked the lunette with great intrepidity; but, after an action which laſted a long time, was obliged to retire. The grenadiers then attacked the covered-way, where the Germans not only made a prodigious reſiſtance, and fired with great fury from the town, but the cannon in the lunette fired upon their backs; upon this the Marquis de Vivans, at the head of a battalion, advanced to ſupport them, which not being able to do, Villars ſent a hundred and fifty dragoons to his aſſiſtance. The Marquis de Coigny, Count Broglio, the Marquis de Nangis, and M. de Catillon, ran all through the midſt of the fire to aſſiſt M. de Vivans; they adviſed him to attempt once more the lunette, which he did, the rather becauſe there was no going back. The Baron de Arſch, who foreſaw what would happen, reſolved to ſell that place as dear to the French as poſſible; with this view he cauſed three or four houſes that were between it and the town to be ſet on fire, and, by the light they gave, fired with prodigious ſucceſs on the French. They carried however the lunette, and put moſt of the men that were in it to the ſword. Marſhal Villars had taken all the neceſſary precautions: he had a freſh brigade at the end of the trenches, which they now entered, and immediately five hundred were detached to aſſiſt in making a lodg-

ment. The French loſt on this occaſion near three thouſand men killed or wounded; among whom were a hundred and fifty officers, and many of them of diſtinction. On the 16th, in the morning, the Baron de Arſch ſent a compliment to Marſhal de Villars, and deſired a ſuſpenſion of arms for four hours, that he might have time to bury his dead; this the marſhal readily granted, and immediately the French and German officers ran together on the covered-way, ſhook hands, embraced and complimented each other on the bravery ſhewn on both ſides in the late action.—Prince Eugene was all this time at Rotweil, from whence he advanced to Holgraben, within three leagues of Fribourg; but, finding that Marſhal de Villars had raiſed impenetrable intrenchments to ſecure his camp, he was forced to retire. Mean time all things were provided for a general aſſault; and Marſhal Villars ſent a meſſage to the Baron de Arſch, importing, that, if he did not beat the chamade before the bridges were finiſhed, he would allow his garriſon no quarter, and receive even the townſmen upon no other terms than priſoners of war at diſcretion. The baron anſwered, "That he did not doubt but his defence would merit the beſt treatment in the world from ſo conſummate an officer as Marſhal Villars." The clergy and townſmen went in a body to ſolicit the governor to think better of this matter, but to no purpoſe. The marſhal, having given the neceſſary directions for carrying on the ſiege, retired to Briſac, where he conferred with the deputies of the Elector Palatine; and Prince Eugene, ſeeing he could be of no uſe to Fribourg, withdrew his troops within the lines of Etlingen.

On the 31ſt, Villars having received advice that all things were in readineſs, reſolved to make the grand attack. But, while the troops were advancing from the trenches, two white flags appeared upon the ramparts; a few moments after one of the magiſtrates of the town brought him a letter from the Baron de Arſch, purporting

purporting that he was retired with his beſt troops into the forts, and that he had abandoned the town, recommending to his clemency two thouſand wounded ſoldiers, a colonel, ſeveral officers, eight hundred men in the breaches, and a multitude of men, women, and children, which the Germans always have in their train. Villars, on entering the place, was ſurrounded by the magiſtrates and the inhabitants, who came to implore his clemency; he told them that he had the greateſt ſenſe of their miſery, and that his ſoldiers ſhould neither touch their perſons nor their effects. Such of the neighbouring gentlemen as had taken refuge in Fribourg with their families he diſmiſſed, taking an oath that they would do him no prejudice. In the magazines there was found a hundred thouſand weight of powder, but not a grain of corn or proviſions. Villars ſent thereupon to acquaint the Baron de Arſch, that, if he imagined to diſtreſs him by leaving theſe poor people to eat him up, he was deceived. He was ready to do all that could be expected from him, which was to grant him an honourable capitulation; and that, if he deliberated upon this, he muſt ſend his people victuals, for he would ſhut them up entirely from his army. The inhabitants of the town however were not included in this harſh treatment. The Baron de Arſch was obliged to ſend bread every day to theſe poor creatures, which he did in ſo ſparing a manner that they died by hundreds.—The governor demanded a ſuſpenſion of arms, and leave to ſend to Prince Eugene, which was granted: the Baron de Wachtendonck was pitched on. On his return, he waited on the Marſhal de Villars with a capitulation. The firſt article of which was, That the garriſon of Landau ſhould be releaſed. The marſhal would hear of no ſuch thing. The baron told him, that the governor could now do nothing, for that Prince Eugene had ſent poſitive orders to ſurrender on no other terms. He then demanded leave to go

himſelf to Prince Eugene, which was alſo granted him. On his return an honourable capitulation was ſigned, and the garriſon marched out about ſeven thouſand ſtrong, having been at firſt thirteen thouſand. There were found in the caſtle and forts a prodigious quantity of artillery, with ammunition and proviſion for ſix weeks. The reaſon which determined Prince Eugene to ſend his orders for rendering the forts were, that Marſhal Villars had made all the neceſſary preparations for blowing up the fortifications of the town.

Villars, after theſe rapid ſucceſſes, left the command of the army to Count du Bourg, and went poſt to Straſbourg; and ſoon after, the emperor being heartily tired, it was declared that conferences were to be held between M. de Villars and Prince Eugene, at the caſtle of Raſtadt. On the 26th of November, M. Villars arrived at Raſtadt about three in the afternoon, and took poſſeſſion of that part of the caſtle which was aſſigned him; about an hour after, Prince Eugene arrived; Marſhal Villars met him on the ſtair-caſe; they embraced each other with all the teſtimonies of friendſhip and eſteem: they held conferences together every morning, dined with each other alternately, for ſixty-three days, viz. to the 6th of February 1714. They then ſeparated without concluding any thing in appearance; the Prince went to Stutgard and the Marſhal to Straſbourg. All things being afterwards ſettled between the courts of Vienna and France, M. Villars wrote a letter to the prince to know when he would be at Raſtadt; he fixed the 28th of February, on which day they both arrived. On the third of March the treaty was concluded, and all things being put in order by the ſixth, it was then ſigned; and immediately thereupon orders were diſpatched to the governors and commanders on both ſides to prevent any hoſtilities. The treaty was ratified at Verſailles on the 23d of March 1714, and at Vienna ſome time in the ſame month. The ratifications came in the beginning

ginning of April to Raſtadt, where they were exchanged, the 6th of the ſame month. In May a congreſs was opened at Baden, for the final adjuſtment of all differences.—The French miniſters arrived there firſt, thoſe of the emperor next, both within the month of May: ſoon after came the miniſters of the new king of Sicily, thoſe of the Electors of Bavaria and Cologne, the Dukes of Parma, Modena, and Guaſtalla; the pope's nuncio, and many others. The conferences were continued to the 5th of June, when, the treaty being concluded, there was nothing wanting but the arrival of the principal plenipotentiaries; and on their arrival there was a grand conference held in the hotel de ville, where the treaty being read aloud, it was approved and ſigned by the reſpective miniſters of all the parties. By this treaty the King of France promiſed to render all the places belonging to the ſeveral princes of the empire within thirty days after the ratification of this treaty. The emperor promiſed to execute exactly the neutrality in Italy, and to do immediate juſtice to the Dukes of Guaſtalla and Mirandola, the Prince of Caſtiglione, and other Italian princes. While the treaty of Baden was negociating, the peace between England and Spain was ſigned; and on the 26th of June, that between Spain and the States of Holland. The treaty between Spain and Portugal commenced at the ſame time; but, through the ſlowneſs of theſe nations, it was not concluded till the 14th of February, 1715. Thus we have conducted to its end, the war between the allies and the two crowns of France and Spain.

The treaty, however, did not put an end to the war in Spain; for the Catalonians ſtill refuſed to ſubmit to acknowledge Philip V. for their king.—They aſſembled in Barcelona in great multitudes; thoſe who were moſt buſy, taking upon them to act as chiefs, and even to form a ſort of diet or ſtates general under the title the Deputation of Catalonia, by whom it was reſolved that

that they would never acknowledge King Philip. What the true ſource of this proceeding was is very difficult to diſcover, ſome affirming that the Catalans were chiefly influenced by the ſolemn promiſes which had been made them by the Queen of Great Britain and her miniſters, others that they were privately encouraged by the emperor; the moſt probable account of the matter is, that ſuch as had enriched themſelves by the war were apprehenſive of being reduced to miſerable circumſtances on their ſubmiſſion to the King of Spain; and that theſe encouraged the people with the hopes of becoming a free and independent ſtate on the one hand, and terrified them on the other by ringing in their ears the loſs of their privileges, and the danger they would run of being impoveriſhed by great garriſons and heavy taxes, if once they owned for their prince him againſt whom they ſo long had fought, and whom they had treated with ſuch diſreſpect and indignity. When the Germans had retired, (according to the terms of the treaty,) Barcelona was left in the hands of the beforementioned deputation, who named the Marquis de Villareal commander of the army; the three brothers of the name of Nebot, and ſeveral other perſons, general officers, and, by a moſt extraordinary act of their authority, declared war againſt France and Spain. On the evacuation of Terragona, General Raphael Nebot advanced with a great body of men to take poſſeſſion of it; but the inhabitants, dreading the conſequence of falling into ſuch hands, ſhut their gates, and ſent an expreſs to the Marquis de Lede, who on the 13th of July garriſoned the place for Philip V.

The Catalonians being left to defend Barcelona and the other poſts that were in their hands the beſt way they could, the deputation began to act not only with vigour, but with ſome degree of violence alſo, forbidding any family to retire from Barcelona, without their permiſſion, under pain of death. They cauſed all tradeſmen who were ſuppoſed to have money to be

taxed

taxed at certain ſums; and, the eccleſiaſtics of their party having aſſured them that it was lawful for them to make free with church plate, ſince they had taken arms in the cauſe of religion as well as their country, they, without more ado, plundered all the chancels in Barcelona.

The Duke de Popoli, whom Philip had named viceroy of Catalonia, having diſpoſed his troops in ſuch a manner as to block up Barcelona, before he pretended to act offenſively ſent a trumpet with a letter to inform the inhabitants of that city, that, if by the 29th of July they did not open their gates to the forces of the moſt catholic king, they would loſe the benefit of that general pardon which he had been pleaſed to grant, and would expoſe themſelves and their poſterity to many miſchiefs, which he therefore intreated them to prevent, aſſuring them that his majeſty would cauſe all thoſe privileges which were not inconſiſtent with his royal authority, to be ſtrictly obſerved. They returned an anſwer by the trumpet, ſignifying much ſurprize at the receipt of ſuch a letter, declaring their reſolution to defend themſelves to the laſt, and aſſuring the Duke de Popoli, that he had nothing to truſt to but force. On the 24th of October the Barcelonians received a great convoy from Majorca, the inhabitants of which iſland had, in imitation of them, ſet up for themſelves; this convoy conſiſted of thirty barks laden with ammunition and proviſions, and with two thouſand ſoldiers on board. The next day they ſallied and cut to pieces a great number of men in the Spaniſh entrenchments, during which action ſeven hundred oxen, three thouſand ſheep, and two hundred waggon-loads of wood, were carried into the town. On the ſeventh of November they made another ſally with ſuch ſucceſs, that they carried off not only a great quantity of cattle, but fifty horſes, and a hundred and fifty priſoners. The day following they received three barks and a veſſel deeply laden, from Sardinia, with corn

and fiſh. The deputation, encouraged by ſo many ſucceſſes, levied a new regiment of deſerters, and the ſtudents formed another regiment of their own accord; they likewiſe brought in every day cattle, corn, fruit, and fiſh, from the villages adjoining.

It may be wondered that his moſt Catholic majeſty, having now no other war upon his hands than this, ſhould be able to make no greater efforts for the reduction of the laſt city in the hands of his enemies; but the cauſes of this will be eaſily ſhewn. The ſeveral provinces of Spain had been ſo exhauſted by the mighty levies of troops, and the vaſt ſums raiſed upon them, within the compaſs of a very few years, that they were in truth abſolutely unable to furniſh either recruits or freſh funds for the neceſſary expences of the current year; beſides, a naval force was wanting to block up Barcelona by ſea, which Spain was unable to furniſh, and which his Catholic majeſty was conſtrained to expect from the kindneſs of the moſt Chriſtian king, who complied with the requeſt of his grandſon; and, though he had not been able to give him much ſupport while he had other wars on his hands, now fitted out an armament for his aſſiſtance. He gave directions for equipping, with all poſſible diligence, a ſmall ſquadron at Toulon, which was to carry ammunition and proviſions to the Spaniſh army in Catalonia, and to aſſiſt in blocking up Barcelona by ſea.

The Catalans had extraordinary good intelligence, they knew exactly the meaſures taken by the two crowns for reducing them, and they knew too the weakneſs of the King of Spain's finances, who, on account of this war, was conſtrained to levy a ſubſidy in Catalonia, the happieſt thing for the malcontents that could be; they diſperſed their emiſſaries throughout all the country, and theſe began every where to trumpet about that Catalonia would be treated as a conquered province, the people ſtripped of their priviledges, burthened with taxes, and barred of all preferments.

ferments. From these premisses the negociators inferred, that the only course left for them to take was to desert to the King of Spain, and unanimously join the Deputation, which, with such assistance, they gave out would be able to drive both the French and Spaniards immediately out of Catalonia. These exhortations had their effect among a people prone above all things to pillage; and the rising which it produced was so sudden and so general, that most of the Spanish corps were surrounded and besieged in their quarters; so that, while they blockaded Barcelona, they themselves were blocked up by the Catalans.

The Duke of Berwick, who was sent by the most Christian king with his compliments of condolance on the death of the Queen of Spain, offered his service to his most Catholic majesty, which was very readily accepted. The fleet by this time began to draw together, which was intended to consist of fifty sail, but the storms and tempests which raged continually through the months of February and March hindered it from appearing so early on the coasts of Catalonia as it was designed. On the 8th of March the Duke de Popoli began to bombard Barcelona, which suffered exceedingly; but, by an order from the court of Madrid, the bombardment was interrupted, in hopes that the Catalans, on the conclusion of the peace of Rastadt, would throw themselves on the king's mercy; which they were so far from doing, that on the 8th of May it appeared a siege in form was absolutely necessary; and the Marshal de Berwick was named to command it. The army which formed this siege consisted of sixty-eight French battalions, thirty-nine Spanish and Walloon, 3,859 horse, and 3,869 dragoons. The Duke of Berwick, as the first step to the reduction of the place, resolved to make himself master of the fort of Capuchins, between the town and Montjouy. This was a monastery capable of holding about a hundred friars, which the Catalans had taken care to fortify

with much induſtry and dexterity. The trenches before it were opened in the night between the 14th and 15th of May, and on the 16th a breach was practicable, the place attacked and carried ſword in hand, and all who defended it ſlain upon the ſpot. The taking this place gave the beſiegers mighty advantages, as well againſt the fort as the town, both of which they bombarded with great fury. Moſt of the ſoldiers in the town, inſtead of running to extinguiſh the flames, took that opportunity to pillage; five hundred of the Catalans, having retired from Barcelona before the ſiege, poſſeſſed themſelves of the town of Arenas. M. de Bracamonte ſoon afterwards inveſted the place; the inhabitants thereupon joined with the miquelets, and made a moſt obſtinate reſiſtance; at laſt, however, it was taken, ſacked and pillaged, all the inhabitants being put to the ſword, except women, children, and aged men. Yet ſtill the Catalans had ſuch an advantage over the Spaniſh troops, that they were at a loſs how to carry on the ſiege till the arrival of all the French troops, when the Marſhal de Berwick took on him the ſupreme command, and the Duke de Popoli returned to Madrid. The Catalans were exceedingly concerned at this news, for they dreaded the Duke de Berwick more than all the generals in France and Spain, becauſe of the firmneſs of his temper, and his great knowledge in the art of war.

It would be tedious to enter into a minute detail of the ſiege of Barcelona: it is ſufficient to ſay, that never was a defence more obſtinate. The beſieged, having planted an enſign in the breach with a death's head, made ſuch prodigious efforts, that it was hardly poſſible to retain any poſts after they were gained. On the 6th of September, Don Joſeph Pilz appeared on the breach with a white flag, but the Marſhal de Berwick would not hear of any terms, unleſs they would ſurrender at diſcretion, promiſing however to ſave their lives and their effects; to which Don Joſeph anſwered,

anſwered, that he did not come to make any propoſitions, but to aſſure them that the townſmen of Barcelona were reſolved rather to die than to yield. On the 11th of September the Marſhal de Berwick gave orders for making a general aſſault. The attack on the right ſucceeded perfectly well. The attack on the left had ſucceſs at laſt, but after a prodigious effuſion of blood. It laſted from half an hour paſt four in the morning till eight o'clock the ſame morning, when the beſieged made ſuch a prodigious effort, that they drove the troops from all their poſts, excepting thoſe within the breaches; it was then that the corps de reſerve, commanded by Berwick in perſon, marched, when a more obſtinate engagement enſued than the former; the baſtion of St. Peter was taken and retaken eleven times; at laſt, about four o'clock in the afternoon, the beſiegers ſettled themſelves in all the poſts, and the beſieged were forced to retire into the new city, where they immediately hung out white flags, which the Marſhal de Berwick perceiving relented, permitted the deputies to be admitted to him, and granted a ſuſpenſion of arms, which commenced at eight o'clock. The articles were ſettled by twelve at night, and were theſe:—That the inhabitants ſhould ſurrender at diſcretion to King Philip V. their lawful ſovereign. That the Marſhal de Berwick ſhould aſſure them of their lives and effects. That, in lieu of pillage, each battalion ſhall be allowed a certain ſum of money according to the laws of war, where a town is taken by aſſault. That the town ſhall pay a certain ſum of money to the officers and ſoldiers belonging to the artillery, to preſerve the bells, which ſhould otherwiſe belong to them. That the inhabitants of Barcelona ſhall this day put fort Montjouy into the hands of the beſiegers. That they ſhall immediately ſurrender the town and caſtle of Cardona, the garriſon of which is in their pay, who ſhall be ſafe as their lives and effects. That they ſhall diſpoſe the Majorcans and all the

Catalans, who have taken arms at the ſolicitations of the deputation of Barcelona, to ſubmit to the mercy of his moſt Catholic majeſty. That the regular troops ſhall have leave to liſt in the Spaniſh troops, or retire where they pleaſe.

Marſhal Berwick would not ſuffer this capitulation to be put in writing for him to ſign; but obliged the Catalans to depend upon his honour; the capitulation was however very ſtrictly obſerved, notwithſtanding the mighty effuſion of blood on all ſides.—In the fatal attack of the 11th, there were killed and wounded on both ſides at leaſt five thouſand.—On the 13th the place was delivered up to the Marquis de Guerchy, who entered with fourteen French battalions beſides Spaniſh horſe; and the Duke of Berwick cauſed ſuch exact diſcipline to be obſerved, that on the 14th the ſhops were all open, and the people were about their buſineſs with greater freedom and tranquillity than ever they had done during the ſiege; in which the French troops alone loſt 5803 men; how many Spaniſh troops were killed is not known. As to the loſs of the Catalans, we have no exact account thereof; we know only that five hundred and forty-three eccleſiaſtics were killed and wounded, from whence it may be inferred, that they ſuffered exceedingly in this warm ſervice. This important conqueſt put an entire concluſion to the war in Spain, if we except the taking of Majorca, which happened not long after. The Duke of Berwick, as ſoon as a general tranquillity was reſtored, proceeded to puniſh the chiefs of the revolt, but not one with the loſs of life; they were conducted to ſeveral priſons, there to remain for life, being permitted to take each of them a valet, and to be ſupplied by their families with whatever they might have occaſion for; they did not in the whole exceed twenty-two, among whom the moſt remarkable were the Marquis de Villareal, general of the Catalans; the Marquis de Pinos, who was alſo wounded, and died in a ſhort time after-

afterwards; the Marquis del Poel, and the chevalier his brother. Father Torrents, a Dominican, who had aſſured the people that an army from heaven would come and raiſe the ſiege; and about ſixty other perſons were baniſhed. Towards the latter end of the month of October, Marſhal Berwick publiſhed a new decree, forbidding the Catalans on pain of death to injure the Caſtilians, and forbidding the Caſtilians and all other Spaniards on the like pain, to upbraid the Catalans with their rebellion. His moſt Catholic majeſty rewarded the ſervices of this gentleman with a penſion of 100,000 livres per ann. He likewiſe ſent him a ſword enriched with diamonds of very great value. He gave the collar of the golden fleece to the Lord Lucan, with a company in his guard du corps.

The hiſtory of the latter part of Queen Anne's reign conſiſts entirely of the intrigues of the whigs and tories againſt each other; which, as they are now of no importance, it is needleſs to take up time in relating, farther than that the tory influence continued to prevail. Whether the miniſtry at this time wiſhed to alter the ſucceſſion from the Hanoverian line, cannot now be clearly made out; but certain it is, that the whigs firmly believed it, and the tories but faintly denied the charge. The ſuſpicions of the former became every day ſtronger, particularly when they ſaw a total removal of the whigs from all places of truſt and confidence throughout the kingdom, and their employments beſtowed on profeſſed tories, ſuppoſed to be maintainers of an unbroken hereditary ſucceſſion.

Whilſt civil diſſention was daily advancing to a dangerous height, the Princeſs Sophia died at Hanover, on the 28th of May, in the eighty-fourth year of her age. She was a princeſs eminently diſtinguiſhed for natural and acquired endowments, and her engaging manners cauſed her to be much beloved. She was the fourth and youngeſt daughter of Frederic elector Palatine, king of Bohemia, and Elizabeth daughter of

of King James I. of England. At her death the court of England appeared in mourning; and her ſon, the Elector of Brunſwick, was prayed for by name, in the liturgy of the church of England. The great age of this princeſs would have rendered her very unfit to mount a throne; ſo that her death at this criſis, may be conſidered as giving her ſon a more ready acceſs thereto.

The diſſentions in the cabinet, occaſioned by the diſputes between Bolingbroke and Oxford, now roſe to ſuch a height, that each party threw off the reſtraints of decency, and deſcended to altercation and perſonal reflections. The lord-treaſurer made no ſcruple to declare, that he could produce evidence of Bolingbroke being a determined jacobite; whilſt the ſecretary on his part openly affirmed, that he had proofs in his poſſeſſion, that Oxford was in the intereſt of the pretender. The public, who knew the diſpoſitions of each of theſe ſtateſmen, for once gave credit to the aſſertions of both.

Theſe violent cabals and tumults made the queen's ſituation at length quite inſupportable; her health had for ſome time declined; and on the 28th of July, 1714, ſhe fell into a lethargic inſenſibility. Notwithſtanding all the medicines the phyſicians could preſcribe, the diſtemper gained ground ſo faſt, that next day they deſpaired of her life. All the members of the privy council, without diſtinction, were now ſummoned from the different parts of the kingdom; and they began to provide for the ſecurity of the conſtitution. A letter was ſent to the Elector of Hanover, informing him of the queen's deſperate ſituation, and deſiring him to repair to Holland, where he would be attended by a Britiſh ſquadron to convey him to England. At the ſame time they diſpatched inſtructions to the Earl of Strafford at the Hague, to deſire the States General to be ready to perform the guaranty of the Proteſtant ſucceſſion. Precautions were taken to

ſecure

ſecure the ſea-ports; and the command of the fleet was beſtowed upon the Earl of Berkely, a profeſſed whig. Theſe meaſures, which were all dictated by that party, anſwered a double end: they urged the alacrity of the whigs in the cauſe of their new ſovereign, and ſeemed to imply that the ſtate was in danger from the diſaffection of the oppoſite party.

On the 30th of July the queen ſeemed to be ſomewhat relieved by the medicines which had been given her. She roſe from her bed about eight in the morning, and walked a little: after ſome time, caſting her eyes on a clock that ſtood in her chamber, ſhe continued to gaze at it for ſome minutes. One of the ladies in waiting aſked her what ſhe ſaw there more than uſual? to which the queen only anſwered by turning her eyes upon her with a dying look. She was ſoon after ſeized with an apoplectic fit; from which, however, ſhe was ſomewhat recovered by the aſſiſtance of Dr. Mead. She continued all night in a ſtate of ſtupefaction. She gave ſome ſigns of life betwixt twelve and one the next day; but expired the following morning, a little after ſeven o'clock, having lived forty-nine years, and reigned upwards of twelve.

Thus died Anne Stuart, queen of Great Britain, and one of the beſt and greateſt monarchs that ever filled that throne. In her perſon ſhe was of the middle ſtature, and, before ſhe bore children, well made. Her hair was dark, her complexion ſanguine, her features ſtrong, but not irregular; her whole countenance was dignified and agreeable. In the accompliſhments of the mind, as a woman, ſhe was not deficient; ſhe underſtood muſic, loved painting, and had ſome taſte for works of genius. What was moſt remarkable, was a clear harmonious voice, always admired in the graceful delivery of her ſpeeches to parliament, inſomuch that it uſed to be a common ſaying in the mouth of every one, "that her very ſpeech was muſic." Good-nature, the true characteriſtic of the Stuarts, predominated

nated in her temper, which was a compound of benevolence, generosity, indolence, and timidity, but not without a due sensibility of any slight which she thought was offered to her person or her dignity; to these all her actions, both as a monarch and as a woman, may be ascribed; these were the sources both of her virtues and her failings. Her greatest blessing upon earth was that entire union of affections and inclinations between her and her royal consort, which made them a perfect pattern of conjugal love. She was a fond and tender mother, an easy indulgent mistress, and a most gracious sovereign; but she had more than once reason to repent giving up her heart, and trusting her secrets without reserve, to her favourites. She was never expensive, but saved money out of her 50,000l. a-year, which, after she came to the crown, was paid to Prince George of Denmark, and was his by right. She retained to the last the true principles of that religion which she had early imbibed; and was charitable without ostentation. She had a great reverence for clergymen eminent for learning and good lives, and was particularly beneficent to the poorer sort of them, of which she left an evidence which bears her name, and will perpetuate both that and her bounty to all succeeding generations.—Indeed the virtues of her heart were never called in question; she was a pattern of conjugal affection and fidelity, a tender mother, a warm friend, an indulgent mistress, a munificent patron, a mild and merciful princess; during whose reign no blood was shed for treason. She felt a mother's fondness for her people, by whom she was universally beloved with a warmth of affection which even the prejudice of party could not abate. In a word, she was certainly one of the best and most unblemished sovereigns that ever sat upon the throne of England, and well deserved the expressive though simple epithet of "the good Queen Anne."

We cannot here omit the character of Queen Anne, as

as written by the Ducheſs of Marlborough, a lady who had ſuch an opportunity of thoroughly knowing the queen, and who bore ſo great a part in many of the tranſactions of that glorious reign:

"Queen Anne was very graceful and majeſtic in her perſon: religious without affectation; ſhe always meant well; ſhe had no falſe ambition, which appeared by her never complaining at King William's being preferred to the crown before her, when it was taken from the king, her father, for following ſuch counſels, and purſuing ſuch meaſures, as rendered the revolution neceſſary. It was her greateſt affliction to act againſt him, even for ſecurity. Her journey to Nottingham was never concerted, but occaſioned by the great conſternation ſhe was under at the king's ſudden return from Saliſbury. She always paid the greateſt reſpect to King William and Queen Mary; never inſiſted upon any one circumſtance of grandeur more than what was eſtabliſhed in her family by King Charles II. though, after the revolution, ſhe was preſumptive heir to the crown, and, after the death of her ſiſter, was in the place of Prince of Wales. Upon her acceſſion to the throne, the civil liſt was not increaſed. The late Earl of Godolphin, lord high-treaſurer of England, has often ſaid, that from accidents in the cuſtoms, and lenity in the collection, it did not ariſe, one year with another, to more than 500,000l. a-year. She had no vanity in her expences, nor bought any one jewel in the whole time of her reign. She paid out of her civil liſt many penſions granted in former reigns, which have ſince been thrown upon the public. When a war was neceſſary, to ſecure Europe againſt the power of France, ſhe contributed in one year towards the war, out of her civil liſt, 100,000l. in eaſe of her ſubjects. She granted the revenues ariſing from the firſt-fruits, to augment the proviſions of the poorer clergy. She never refuſed her private charity to proper objects. Till a few years before her

death, ſhe never had but 20,000l. a-year for her privy-purſe; at the latter end of her reign it did not exceed twenty-ſix thouſand pounds a-year; which was much to her honour, becauſe it is ſubject to no account: and, as to her robes, it will appear by the records in the exchequer, that in nine years ſhe ſpent only 32,050l. including the coronation expence. She was extremely well-bred: treated her chief ladies and ſervants as if they had been her equals: her behaviour to all that approached her was decent and full of dignity, and ſhewed condeſcenſion, without art or meanneſs. All this I know to be true. SARAH MARLBOROUGH."

The above character is cut round the pedeſtal, on which ſtands a full-length figure of the queen, at Blenheim, the ſeat of the Duke of Marlborough.

There had been a new vault made on the ſouth ſide and towards the eaſt end of Henry VII's chapel, to depoſit the body of Charles II. in which that prince, Queen Mary, King William III. and Prince George of Denmark, were laid. Here the remains of Queen Anne were likewiſe depoſited; and, there being no more room left, the vault is cloſed with brick-work. She married his Royal Highneſs Prince George, brother to the then King of Denmark, July 28, 1683, by whom ſhe had ſeveral children, who all died before her. In her ended the line of the Stuarts; "a family," ſay the authors of the Encyclopædia Britannica, "who never rewarded their friends, nor ever avenged them of their adverſaries; a family whoſe miſconduct and misfortunes are not to be paralleled in hiſtory."

Naval and Commercial Incidents during the Reign of Queen Anne.

ON the breaking out of the war, in the beginning of the queen's reign, 1702, the great demand for all kinds of naval ſtores, and particularly of pitch and tar, which were procured from the northern kingdoms,

doms, led the tar-company of Sweden to be very haughty in their demands for thoſe articles, which had always been bought on diſadvantageous terms to England, they being paid for in ready money; but now the Swedes refuſed to ſell ſuch commodities, unleſs England would permit them to be brought in Swediſh ſhips, at their own price, and in ſuch quantities only as that company ſhould think fit. This conduct firſt ſuggeſted to parliament the method of allowing bounties for the raiſing of pitch and tar, hemp, flax, and ſhip-timber, in our North-American colonies; particularly in Carolina, (the ſouthern parts of which lie near the latitude of Lower Egypt, and the northernmoſt nearly with Ancona and Bologna in Italy, at which places the beſt hemp and flax are produced.) For the particular benefit of the royal navy, the preemption or refuſal of ſuch naval ſtores, was, by the ſame act, allowed to the commiſſioners of the navy; but, if they neglected to purchaſe ſuch articles within twenty days from the firſt landing them, then the proprietors were at full liberty to diſpoſe of their merchandize as they ſhould think fit. This act contained a prohibition from cutting or deſtroying any pitch, pine, or tar, trees, under the growth of twelve inches diameter, at three feet from the earth, on forfeiture of five pounds for each offence; and the penalty of ten pounds was thereby incurred, by the wilful ſetting on fire any woods or foreſts, in which any trees grew, that had been prepared for the making of pitch or tar, without firſt giving notice to the owners thereof, or to a magiſtrate. The beneficial conſequences of this ſalutary law have been now happily experienced for upwards of ninety years.

About this time is fixed for the firſt cultivation of rice in South-Carolina, which, by opening a new branch of commerce, brought wealth to the colony, and in conſequence to the mother country. This valuable grain is ſaid to have been firſt introduced

there by accident, a ſmall quantity of ſeed-rice being brought in a veſſel which arrived from Madagaſcar. Before theſe important productions became articles of commerce, Carolina had very inconſiderable merchandize to tranſmit to England, in exchange for the neceſſaries which that colony conſtantly required from the mother country.

In the year 1703, John Methuen, Eſq. our ambaſſador at the court of Liſbon, concluded, on the part of the Queen of Great-Britain, with Peter king of Portugal, an important treaty of commerce, to the mutual benefit of both kingdoms: by which his Portugueſe majeſty agreed, for himſelf and his ſucceſſors, to admit into his kingdom the woollen cloths and the other woollen manufactures of Great-Britain, on condition, that the wines of the growth of Portugal were admitted into thoſe kingdoms; ſo that at no time, whether there ſhould be peace or war between the kingdoms of Great-Britain and France, any thing more ſhall be demanded for Portugal wines, as cuſtom or duty, than one-third part of the cuſtom or duty paid by wines imported from France. This beneficial convention, which was ſigned on the 27th day of December, 1703, has ever ſince remained inviolable, and thereby an uninterrupted friendſhip and alliance has ſubſiſted between the two nations. By this treaty England gains a greater balance from Portugal than from any other country whatever; and the exports thither have continually increaſed.

It may not be improper to remark in this place, the quantity of gold and ſilver coin of all ſorts, which, in conſequence of the union, (1706,) was brought into the mint of Edinburgh, to be re-coined into the pieces and denominations of ſterling money; the amount of which was 411,117l. 10s. 9d. as brought into the mint: neither is it improbable that as much more might have been hoarded up, by the whimſical, diſaffected, and timorous, who were ſtrongly

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prepoſſeſſed againſt the union, and were far from believing it would long continue. The current coin of Scotland was alſo, at this time, exported to foreign parts, and no inconſiderable quantity melted by the ſilverſmiths into various kinds of plate; ſo that a judicious author conjectures, that the gold and ſilver coin in Scotland might amount to nine hundred thouſand pounds ſterling.

In 1706, the parliament paſſed an act, by which a farther term of fourteen years and a half was granted to the Eaſt-India company, in conſequence of its advancing one million two hundred thouſand pounds for the public ſervice, which ſum was advanced without any additional intereſt; and the capital of the company, which before was limited to two millions, was now extended to three millions two hundred thouſand pounds, the intereſt payable on which was ſettled at five per cent. and in order for a ſpeedy and complete union between the old and new companies, in purſuance of the agreement entered into in the year 1702, the final determination of all matters of difference between them, and the completing of their union, was referred to the Earl of Godolphin, lord-treaſurer: the whole to be completed, and the old company's charter to be ſurrendered, by Michaelmas 1708; after which the united company's ſtyle and title to be, as it ſtill is, "The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt-Indies." Much clamour was raiſed againſt this renewal of the excluſive privileges of trading to India, as had always happened upon a renewal. The legiſlature was called upon either to lay that trade entirely open, or to admit the ports of Briſtol, Liverpool, and Hull, to a participation. It was contended to be unjuſt for London to engroſs the whole of ſo vaſt a commerce, while the Dutch Eaſt-India company included ſix of their towns in that commerce. In reply to which it was urged, that, as the

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ſtock was transferrable, any perſon in the three kingdoms was at liberty to become a purchaſer.

An act of parliament was alſo paſſed, for ſecuring the credit of the bank of England, by which it was enacted, that during the continuance of the governor and company of the bank of England, it ſhall not be lawful for any body-politic, erected, or to be erected, other than the bank of England, or for any perſons whatſoever, united, or to be united, in covenants or partnerſhips, exceeding the number of ſix perſons in England, (the bank of Scotland had been legally eſtabliſhed in 1695,) to borrow, owe, or to take up, any ſums of money on their bills or notes, payable on demand, or in leſs time than ſix months from the borrowing thereof. This reſtriction was principally meant to affect the Mine Adventurers' Company, who had eſtabliſhed a bank.

In the beginning of the year 1709, a bill was ordered into the houſe of commons for a general naturalization of foreign proteſtants in England, in favour of which it was argued, that very great benefits would thereby accrue to Great Britain. It was obſerved, that the King of Pruſſia, by inviting the French refugees to ſettle in his dominions, had fertilized a barren and ill-peopled country; improved its trade and manufactures, and increaſed his own revenues. The bill was accordingly paſſed. By this act for naturalizing foreign proteſtants, all perſons born out of the ligeance of his majeſty who ſhould take and ſubſcribe the oaths, and the declaration appointed the preceding year, ſhould be deemed, adjudged, and taken, to be her majeſty's natural-born ſubjects, provided they ſhould have received the ſacrament of the Lord's Supper in ſome proteſtant or reformed congregation, within the kingdom of Great Britain, within three months of their taking the ſaid oaths. The children of all natural-born ſubjects, though born out of the ligeance of her majeſty, ſhould

be

be deemed and adjudged to be natural-born subjects of Great Britain to all intents, constructions, and purposes, whatsoever. And the like naturalization of foreign protestants was extended to Ireland. Soon after the passing this law, near seven thousand of the poor Palatines and Suabians, dwelling on the banks of the Rhine, in Germany, who had been utterly ruined and driven from their habitations by the French, were, in compassion to their misery, brought over to England, and were soon after followed by more of their countrymen. Had they been immediately sent over to some one or more of our continental colonies in America, they would have caused a great accession of strength in those parts; but no settled plan was concerted for their establishment any where. In order to provide for their present support, a brief was granted throughout Great Britain for a collection for them. Some of them were taken into private families, five hundred families of them were sent into Ireland, where twenty-four thousand pounds was granted for their support. At length three thousand of them were conveyed to New-York, and settled upon Hudson's river. Many who were dissatisfied with that settlement removed to Pennsylvania, where they were kindly received by the quakers. This friendly reception proved afterwards the means of drawing many thousands of German and Swiss protestants thither, whereby that province has since become one of the most populous and flourishing in North-America.

The former parliament had taken into consideration the proceedings of the Mine-adventurers' Company, in consequence of a petition preferred by the proprietors and creditors. In the year 1704, Queen Anne had granted a charter of incorporation to several noblemen, gentlemen, and eminent citizens of London, for the working and managing of mines and minerals, and smelting, refining, and manufacturing, the same. Of this company the Duke of Leeds was chosen governor,

and

and Sir Humphry Mackworth deputy governor, for life; to the latter of whom the conduct of the undertaking was entirely entrusted. After the scheme had been conducted for a few years with the most ostentatious parade of success, whilst profusion and mismanagement secretly involved the undertaking in immense debts, the company were obliged to stop payment of their sealed bills and cash notes. It appeared to the committee of the house of commons appointed to enquire into the causes of this failure, that the company had lost eighty-eight thousand pounds by banking, and that other large sums had been squandered away upon ruinous projects which Sir Humphry had started. The house hereupon unanimously passed a vote of censure on the deputy-governor, and others concerned with him in these mal-practices, and ordered in a bill to prevent their leaving the kingdom, or alienating their estates. But, when the proceedings against these delinquents ought to have been resumed by the new parliament, Sir Humphry being a warm retainer to high-church and toryism, his misconduct was overlooked, and the proceedings against him were dropped.

In consequence of an act passed, for the better securing her majesty's docks, ships of war, and stores, commissioners were appointed to treat for the purchase of such lands as should be judged proper for the better fortifying of Portsmouth, Chatham, and Harwich; and proper juries were to be summoned, to ascertain the just value of such lands as should be wanted. This plan has been since farther extended to Plymouth and Milford-Haven; and greater quantities of ground have been purchased, for extending and improving the fortifications of Portsmouth, Chatham, and Plymouth; the fortifications of which, however, are still thought to be capable of essential improvement.

The foundation of the present wealth and consequence of the town of Liverpool was laid about this time,

time, by an act of parliament, which enabled the corporation to place proper land-marks, buoys, and other directions, in the port, for the safety of shipping, and to construct a convenient wet dock, or bason, therein; to effect which, a duty was laid on the tonnage of all ships trading to and from that port, which was to continue for twenty-one years. This impost has been found fully to answer the ends proposed thereby; every thing conducive to the safety and accommodation of shipping having been completed, to the great emolument of that flourishing town.

The most memorable commercial transaction, during the Earl of Oxford's administration, was the establishment of the South-Sea Company. When the Earl of Godolphin quitted the treasury-board, a large debt remained unfunded, which had been created by deficiencies in supplies, and the application of subsidies to other services than those for which they were originally designed. When the new ministry took the lead, the holders of these debts were formed into a company. The debts unprovided for being liquidated at 9,471,321l. on which an annuity, at the rate of six per cent. was granted, by an act of parliament passed in the ninth year of Queen Anne's reign, until the principal was paid, which amounted to five hundred and sixty-eight thousand two hundred and seventy-nine pounds. The company were incorporated for carrying on a trade to the South-Seas; and by their charter, there was vested in them and their successors the sole trade into and from all the kingdoms and lands on the east side of America, from the river Oroonoko to the southermost part of Terra del Fuego; and on the west side thereof, from the said southermost part of Terra del Fuego, through the South-Sea, to the northermost part of America; and into and from all the countries, islands, and places, within the said limits, which are reputed

to belong to Spain, or which ſhall hereafter be diſcovered within the limits aforeſaid, not exceeding three hundred leagues from the continent of America, on the weſt ſide, except the kingdom of Brazil, and ſuch other places on the eaſt ſide of America, as are now in the poſſeſſion of the King of Portugal, and the country of Surinam, in the poſſeſſion of the States-general: and, to give the thing the greater ſanction, the ſaid company, and none elſe, were to trade within the ſaid limits; and if any other perſon ſhall trade to the South-Seas, they ſhall forfeit the ſhip and goods, and double value: one fourth part to the crown; another fourth part to the proſecutor; and the other two fourths to the uſe of the company. And the company ſhall be the ſole owners of the iſlands, forts, &c. which they ſhall diſcover within the ſaid limits, to be held of the crown, under the annual rent of an ounce of gold, and of all ſhips taken as prize by the ſhips of the ſaid company; and the company may ſeize, by force of arms, all other Britiſh ſhips trading in thoſe ſeas. The ſtock of this corporation was to ariſe from the ſubſcription of theſe public debts, and the ſum of eight thouſand two hundred and ſeventy-nine pounds was granted for the charges of management. The governor and directors of the new company had power, by their charter, to make any call, not exceeding ten per cent. for the proſecution of this trade.

A contract then ſubſiſted between Philip of Spain and the Guinea Company of France, commonly called the Aſſiento Treaty, by which the Spaniſh ſettlements in South-America were ſupplied with negroes: the term of years for which this agreement was made, expired in 1713, and, when a general peace was negotiating, the court of Madrid agreed to make their aſſiento treaty with Great Britain inſtead of France, who had really ſuſtained great loſſes by executing

cuting the contract, although the Engliſh were buoyed up with the hope of making immenſe gains thereby. This aſſiento contract ſtipulates, in the firſt place, that, from the 1ſt of May, 1713, to the 1ſt of May, 1743, the company ſhall tranſport into the Spaniſh Weſt-Indies, one hundred and forty-four thouſand negroes of both ſexes, and of all ages, at the rate of four thouſand eight hundred negroes every year; that for each negroe the aſſientiſts ſhall pay thirty-three one-third pieces of eight, in full, for all royal duties; that the ſaid aſſientiſts ſhall advance his Catholic majeſty two hundred thouſand pieces of eight, upon the terms preſcribed in the contract; that twice a-year they ſhall pay the before-mentioned duties of four thouſand negroes, his Catholic majeſty giving them the duty on the other eight hundred, to balance their riſk, and extraordinary expences; that his Catholic majeſty and the Queen of Great Britain ſhall each be concerned a quarter-part in the ſaid trade, and ſhall be allowed a quarter of the profits, which ſhall be accounted for, by the aſſientiſts, upon oath. That, during this ſpace, neither the French Guinea Company, nor the ſubjects of any crown, ſhall have any licence to import negroes; and, in caſe they ſhould import them, they ſhall be conſidered as contraband, and the company ſhall have power to confiſcate them; with many other clauſes for the ſecurity of this trade. The King of Spain alſo licenſed two ſhips of ſix hundred tons each, for carrying merchandize the firſt year to the northern ports of the Spaniſh Weſt Indies, beſides an annual ſhip of five hundred tons: but no ſhip ſailed during this reign.

By an act of parliament paſſed in the ninth year of Anne, cap. 10. the former laws for eſtabliſhing poſt-offices in both kingdoms of England and Scotland were repealed, and one general poſt-office, as well as one general poſt-maſter, thereby appointed for the united kingdom; and alſo a chief letter-office

was erected at Edinburgh, Dublin, New-York, and the Weſt-Indies. By the ſame act the rate of poſtage was augmented: what before paid twopence, was now advanced to threepence; and for double letters ſixpence. The penny poſt office eſtabliſhed within London, Weſtminſter, Southwark, and parts adjacent, is firſt mentioned in this ſtatute.

As the progreſſive wealth and improvement of the nation may be ſafely inferred from the increaſe of this branch of the revenue, it may be thought curious to remark, that when a general poſt-office was firſt eſtabliſhed in England, in the year 1660, it then brought in a revenue of twenty-one thouſand pounds a year, which is ſuppoſed to have been the amount, after contingent expences were defrayed. In the courſe of fifty-one years, we find the net revenue to amount to fifty-ſix thouſand ſix hundred and ſixty-four pounds; and ſeven years after that, (in the year 1718,) by a printed report to the houſe of commons, the medium then was ſixty-two thouſand pounds for England, and two thouſand pounds for Scotland; a ſurpriſing increaſe.

By a report made in the houſe of commons in 1709, the revenue of the cuſtoms of Great Britain, at that time, appears to have been as follows:

The groſs amount of the cuſtoms - -				£2,319,320
Deduct	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*	
Salaries and incidents	152,184	12	1	
Drawbacks on foreign goods -	717,190	17	2	
Bounty for corn exported	36,027	1	4	
Allowance for damages, &c.	57,075	15	0	
Portage paid to maſters of ſhips - - - -	3,358	19	6	
				965,837
Net produce in 1709 - - -				£1,353,483

The

The net amount of the cuſtoms of England, from the year 1700 to 1714, both inclusive, appears to have been as follows:

1700	—	£1,379,460
1701	—	1,637,809
1702	—	1,285,605
1703	—	1,206,349
1704	—	1,401,390
1705	—	1,139,277
1706	—	1,311,856
1707	—	1,192,081
1708	—	1,351,536
1709	—	1,353,483
1710	—	1,208,292
1711	—	1,253,598
1712	—	1,315,423
1713	—	1,541,170
1714	—	1,714,139
		£20,291,468

Average of the produce for one year £1,352,764

The importation of tobacco from America into England, at a medium of ten years, ending in 1708, is given by Dr. d'Avenant, at - 28,858,666 lbs.

Exported on a like medium - - 17,598,007

11,260,659 lbs.

In a repreſentation made by the Eaſt-India Company to the houſe of commons, in the tenth year of Queen Anne's reign, againſt the laying additional duties on ſuch commodities as that company imported from the eaſt; it was aſſerted, that the company annually ſhipped for their ſettlements, about one hundred and fifty thouſand pounds value in woollen goods, and other Engliſh product.

The balance accruing to England from her foreign trade, during the war, or the merchandize exported

to

to foreign parts, exceeded the imports by two million three hundred eighty nine thouſand eight hundred and ſeventy two pounds: which ſum England may be ſuppoſed to have gained every year by her foreign commerce.

In November 1711, the prices of the public ſtocks were as follow:—Eaſt-India ſtock, 124½. Bank ſtock, 111¼. South-Sea ſtock, 77½. Royal African ſtock, 4½.

By an act paſſed in the 12th year of Queen Anne's reign, cap. 16. the legal rate of intereſt was reduced from ſix to five per cent. in which act the word *uſury* is made uſe of to expreſs the legal intereſt of money lent, according to its ancient ſignification, although that term is now commonly applied to illegal or exorbitant intereſt only.

Another act of parliament, paſſed the ſame ſeſſion, provides a public reward for ſuch perſon or perſons as ſhall diſcover the longitude at ſea. This bill was brought into the houſe at the joint petition of Mr. Whiſton and Mr. Dutton, founded on the opinions of Sir Iſaac Newton and Dr. Halley. By this act, the board of admiralty, the ſpeaker of the houſe of commons, and other great officers, by virtue of their offices, and other perſons therein named, are conſtituted commiſſioners for trying and judging of all propoſals, experiments, and improvements, relating to the longitude; and any five of them are empowered to act. Theſe, being ſatisfied of the probability of the diſcovery, are directed to certify their opinion to the commiſſioners of the navy, who are empowered to make out a bill for any ſum, not exceeding two thouſand pounds, as the commiſſioners of the longitude ſhall think neceſſary for making the experiments; who ſhall report how far they have ſucceeded. The ultimate reward for the diſcoverer of the longitude if he determines it to one degree, or ſixty geographical miles, is fixed by this ſtatute at ten thouſand

thouſand pounds; if two-thirds of a degree, fifteen thouſand pounds, and if half a degree twenty thouſand pounds.

About this time, (1714,) the emperor Charles VI. firſt granted commiſſions to ſhips fitted out at Oſtend, for trading to Eaſt-India, whereby great quantities of Eaſt-India goods were brought to Europe, which very much interfered with the Engliſh and Dutch Companies. Moſt of theſe interloping ſhips, as well as their commanders and ſecret projectors, were nevertheleſs procured from England and Holland. Some ſhips under the emperor's commiſſion were fitted out at Liſbon and Leghorn. Loud complaints were carried to the court of Vienna by the Engliſh and Dutch, but no redreſs could at that time be obtained.

In the year 1712, the French king granted a patent to his ſecretary, the Sieur Anthony Crozat, for fifteen years, of the whole commerce of all the king's lands in North America, lying between New France on the north, Carolina on the eaſt, and New Mexico on the weſt, down to the gulph of Florida, by the name of Louiſiana. In the preamble to this patent, the French king ſays, that, having in the year 1683 given orders to the Sieur de la Salle to make diſcovery of the country above deſcribed, he ſucceeded ſo well as to leave it beyond a doubt, that a communication might be opened between the bay of Mexico and New France, by means of certain vaſt rivers. The firſt ſettlement which the French had made in thoſe parts, as it was only at the mouth of the river Miſſiſſippi, was an encroachment upon Spain alone, it being within the limits of Florida; but by the grant to Crozat, Louis declared without diſguiſe his deſign of joining Louiſiana to New France, or Canada, and thereby hemming in the Engliſh colonies, ſituated between the river Miſſiſſippi and the ſea eaſtward: and ſuch was the ſupineneſs or incapacity of the Engliſh miniſtry,

hat

that they made no oppoſition to a grant, by which the foundation was laid for eſtabliſhing the power of France on the ruin of that of England in America.

"Crozat," ſays the Abbé Raynal, "was one of thoſe men born for great enterprizes. He poſſeſſed a ſuperiority of talents and ſentiments which enabled him to undertake the greateſt actions, and condeſcend to the leaſt, for the ſervice of the ſtate; and wiſhed to derive all his fame from the glory of his country. The ſoil of Louiſiana was not the object of this active genius. He could not be ignorant of its barrenneſs, nor did it ever appear that he had any idea of attempting to improve it. His intention was to open communications both by land and ſea with Old and New Mexico, to pour in all kinds of merchandiſe into thoſe parts, and to draw from thence a great quantity of piaſtres. The place he had aſked for, appeared to him to be the natural and neceſſary mart for his vaſt operations; and all the ſteps taken by his agents were regulated upon this noble plan. But, being undeceived by ſeveral fruitleſs attempts, he relinquiſhed his ſcheme, and in 1717, reſigned his privilege to a company whoſe ſucceſs aſtoniſhed the world."

In the courſe of this reign, the city of St. Peterſburgh was erected, under the direction of the Czar of Muſcovy, Peter the Great. That extraordinary man, having conquered from Sweden the fine provinces of Livonia, Ingria, and Carelia, formed a deſign of opening a free and new communication between Ruſſia and the Baltic Sea; he therefore laid the deſign of erecting a new metropolis and emporium at the mouth of the river Neva, from whence he might more commodiouſly awe his enemies of the north, and open a communication with the reſt of Europe by means of the Baltic, by a much ſhorter and ſafer courſe than from Archangel. He therefore brought thither a vaſt number of labourers

bourers and artificers from all parts of his vaſt empire; many thouſands of whom are ſaid to have periſhed through cold, hunger, and diſtempers, in that ſwampy ſpot; notwithſtanding which, in the courſe of ten years, he ſurmounted all obſtacles, and having, through his deſpotic ſway, obliged his nobility, merchants, artizans, and others, to erect and inhabit houſes in this new city, and alluring thither many ſea-faring people from Livonia and other parts, by a proſpect of advantage, he gave it the name of St. Peterſburgh, which very ſoon became a large and populous city. By the erection of this new mart of trade, the port of Archangel in the White Sea, to which upwards of one hundred ſhips from England, Holland, France, and Hamburgh, uſed annually to reſort, has greatly declined in its commerce.

Abſtract of the ROYAL NAVY, *as it ſtood at the Death of the* QUEEN.

Rates.	Number.	Guns.	Men.
Firſt	7	714	5312
Second	13	1170	7194
Third	39	2890	16089
Fourth	66	3490	16058
Fifth	32	1190	4160
Sixth	25	500	1047
Total	182	9954	49,860

Fire-ſhips, &c. about 50.

The national debt, at the time of the queen's demiſe, amounted to about fifty millions.

Of the Progreſs of Military Tactics, from the Reign of Elizabeth, to the final Improvement of the modern Army.

At the cloſe of the long and glorious reign of Queen Elizabeth, in vol. ii. p. 296, we have given a ſtatement of the ancient weapons of war, of the then mode of attack and defence, and of the general arrangement and conducting of the army. It will, in this place, be proper to follow up that account, in order to trace the variety and progreſs of fire-arms; the wonderful turn that their invention gave to the politics of Europe; the conſequent effective operations of an army; and the vaſt improvement of military affairs.

The invention of gunpowder brought about the new-modelling of the army, and was the introduction to all the various implements of modern artillery; as cannon, mortars, howitzers, peteraros, matchlocks, firelocks, petards, partridges, bombs, carcaſſes, grenades, infernals, &c. &c. Bombs appear to be among the moſt early of theſe inventions. Strada ſays, they were uſed in the year 1588, at the ſiege of Vakterdonc, a town in Guelders; but from his deſcription it appears, that what he calls a bomb, was, in reality, a carcaſs. Nothing, ſays he, frightened the burghers more than certain hollow balls filled with powder and materials that could not be extinguiſhed; theſe balls were thrown into the air by mortars, and had a match of a certain length, in order to ſet fire to the powder. Falling on the tops of houſes, they broke through them, and, as ſoon as they had taken fire, they burſt, and ſpread out, on every ſide, a flame which was difficult to extinguiſh with water. This inſtrument, which gave origin to grenades, fire-pots, and the like machines, was invented, it is ſaid, a few days before the ſiege of Vakterdonc, by an inhabitant of Venlo, a maker of fire-works.

The

The inhabitants of that town propoſed, with this invention, to divert the Duke of Cleves, who was on a viſit to them, and to whom they had given a grand repaſt; they, therefore, were deſirous of making the firſt trial of it before him, and it ſucceeded much beyond their expectation; for the bomb, falling on a houſe, beat in the roof and floors, and ſet it on fire, which, communicating with the neighbouring houſes, burnt two-thirds of the town, the fire being ſo violent that it was impoſſible to extinguiſh it. I know, adds Strada, that ſome have written, that a month or two before, a like experiment had been made at Bergen-op-Zoom, by an Italian deſerter from the Spaniſh troops, who had engaged with the Dutch, and had promiſed to make them ſome hollow balls of ſtone, or iron, which, being thrown into a beſieged town, and burſting after their fall, would ſet every thing on fire; but, as he was preparing his compoſition, a ſpark having fallen on the powder, he was blown up, and by his death left his employers in an uncertainty, whether or not his ſecret would ſucceed. From both theſe deſcriptions, it is evident the end propoſed was, to burn the towns by means of theſe fire balls. The effect of the bomb is chiefly confined to beating down buildings by its fall, or, by its exploſion, and the pieces of broken iron thrown about in all directions, to break and deſtroy every thing around it. Valturinus, who is the oldeſt of the modern writers on war, the firſt edition of whoſe book was publiſhed, in Latin, at Baſle, in 1472, carries the invention of bombs at leaſt a century farther back than Strada; for, in book x. p. 267, of his work, there is the figure of a cannon, of the howitzer kind, deſtined to throw a brazen ball, filled with combuſtibles, or powder. Bombs, ſince their firſt invention, have been much improved, and they are now made of caſt-iron, thickeſt at the part oppoſite the vent; by which means, that ſide being heavieſt,

they fall with the fuſe uppermoſt, and thereby prevent its being broken or ſmothered: though ſome engineers think, that when caſt equal they fly truer, and burſt into more pieces. Blondel points out an extraordinary method of throwing ſtones into a beſieged town without making uſe of a mortar. "The Poles, (ſays he) aſſiſted by ſome auxiliary troops, beſieged the town of Thorne, in Pruſſia, held by the Swedes, into which they frequently threw ſtones of a monſtrous ſize, great quarters of mill-ſtones, and ſquared ſtones of more than 800lbs. weight, without making uſe of mortars, but by the following eaſy method: In the firm ground, near the counterſcarp, they digged holes juſt of the ſize and figure of the ſtone they intended to throw, the bottom of which hole being flat and even was turned towards the town, with ſuch an angle of inclination as they judged, by eſtimation, was proper for the direction of their throw; and, in the middle of this bottom, they digged another hole deeper, and in form of a chamber, and in ſuch ſort, that the axis of the laſt hole paſſing through the centre of gravity of the ſtone, was perpendicular to its bed, and was the ſame as the line of direction; they filled this hole with gunpowder, if the earth was ſufficiently firm, or elſe they put in a petard, of a ſize proportioned to the weight of the ſtone, which reſting upon the plane of the madrier of the petard, or of the tompion of the chamber, received the full force of the powder, which was lighted by means of a thread dipped in brandy, and compoſition of artificial fire-works, and, riſing to a great height in the air, fell in the town at the deſtined place, where it cruſhed every thing it met with in its fall."

After the invention of bombs, thoſe of carcaſſes of different kinds, and grenades, naturally followed; the latter are ſaid to have been firſt uſed in 1594. Of this kind is the curious invention called partridges; theſe were thrown from a mortar ſo conſtructed, that its

its central bore would contain a bomb or carcaſs of very large calibre; and being ſurrounded with a number of ſmall bores, of a ſize capable of containing a hand-grenade in each, the whole were fired at once, and flew together like a covey of partridges; and hence the name. The howitzer, which is a kind of mortar mounted like a gun on a field-carriage, its trunnions being fixed in the middle, is, on particular occaſions, extremely ſerviceable; they were invented by the Germans about the year 1594, and were ſometimes uſed to throw red-hot balls.

The petard was a contrivance made uſe of to burſt open gates, draw-bridges, and doors of arſenals, forteſſes, and caſtles, attacked by ſurpriſe. It is a kind of iron mortar, of the form of a truncated cone, or of a bell, with a touch-hole in the centre of the breech, and four handles for faſtening it to its madrier. Petards were of different ſizes, according to the uſes for which they were deſigned; a ſmall one, ſixteen lines thick at the breech, and eight or nine at the mouth, its calibre five inches at the breech, and eight at the mouth, and its length from ten inches to a foot long, weighed about ſixty pounds, and was the beſt ſize for general uſe. The manner of loading it was this: it was filled nearly full with the beſt gunpowder, and then covered with wadding, and afterwards, by a wooden trencher, exactly fixed to its calibre; after this, it was to be driven with ſeven or eight ſtrokes of a wooden mallet, care being taken not to break the grains of the powder; and the remainder of the petard was filled with yellow wax, or Greek pitch, the whole covered over with a waxed cloth; the mouth of it was then placed in a cavity turned to receive it, in a ſtrong plank, about eighteen inches ſquare, called a madrier, ſtrengthened on the oppoſite ſide with a croſs band of iron, and a ſtrong iron hook; to this madrier the petard was faſtened by ſtaples paſſing through the handles before-mentioned.

When

When it was to be uſed, the madrier was made faſt by its hook, and, by other contrivances, to the gate intended to be blown open; and fire being ſet to the fuſe, which paſſed through its vent or touchhole into the centre of the powder, the effect was generally a fracture in the gate almoſt equal to the ſize of the madrier. The petard, according to Father Daniel, was invented in France, A. D. 1579, in which year it was uſed by Henry IV. of France, then only king of Navarre. In December 1641, Arundel caſtle was taken by the parliamentary forces under Sir William Waller, and Colonel Browne, who coming unexpectedly, and finding the caſtle gate ſhut, they blew it open with a petard.

The infernals were a kind of floating mines, adapted to the ſea-ſervice, conſtructed in the hulks of ſhips or boats. The firſt inventor of them, or, at leaſt, the firſt who put them in practice, was Frederic Jambelli, an Italian engineer, at the ſiege of Antwerp by the Spaniards, under Alexander prince of Parma, in 1585; a very particular and intereſting relation of their deſtructive effect is given by Strada, in his hiſtory of the Belgic war. The devaſtation made by theſe cauſed ſeveral others to be tried, but none of them ſucceeded ſo well. At Dunkirk and St. Maloes they were tried by the Engliſh; at Havre-de-Grace by the Engliſh and Dutch, under King William; and one was conſtructed by the French, to be ſent againſt Algiers, in 1688. They were filled with combuſtibles, and armed with points, whereby they would, if they fell on wood or any ſoft ſubſtance, ſtick faſt to it. The veſſel was thirty-four feet in length, eighteen in height, and drew nine feet water; the upper deck was covered with old iron cannon and langridge; and when exploded, they broke a great number of windows, unroofed many houſes, and produced a very unuſual ſcene of devaſtation.

Although

Although cannon and modern artillery ſeem to have been uſed as early as the time of Edward III. yet none of our workmen ever attempted to caſt them till the reign of Henry VIII. when, in 1521 according to Stowe, or 1535 as Camden ſays, great braſs ordnance, as cannon and culverins, were firſt caſt in England, by one John Owen. Whether this man did not ſucceed, or died before the year 1543, is not mentioned; but, in that year, according to Stowe, the king employed two aliens as his gun-founders; his words are, "the king, minding wars with France, made great preparations and proviſion, as well of munitions and artillery, as alſo of braſs ordnance; amongſt which, at that time, one Peter Bawd, a Frenchman born, a gun-founder, or maker of great ordnance, and one other alien called Peter Van Collen, a gunſmith, both the king's freedmen, conferred together, deviſed, and cauſed to be made, certain mortar-pieces, being, at the mouth, from eleven inches unto nineteen inches wide." The Duke of Burgundy alſo appears to have had ſome very large ordnance in his army; our countryman Coriat deſcribes one that he ſaw in the arſenal at Zurich: "among them I ſaw one paſſing great murdering-piece; both ends thereof were ſo exceeding wide, that a very corpulent man might eaſily enter the ſame; this alſo was wonne in the field from the ſaid duke:" vol. ii. p. 193. He likewiſe mentions another large piece, termed a baſiliſk, which he ſaw in the arſenal of Milan: "alſo (ſays he) I ſaw an exceeding huge baſiliſke, which was ſo great, that it would eaſily contayne the body of a very corpulent man." About this time, chambered pieces for throwing ſtones, called cannon-perriers, port-pieces, ſtock-fowlers, ſling-pieces, portingale-baſes, and murtherers, were much uſed in forts, and on ſhip-board. About this time, the army alſo uſed gun-carts, for carrying two peteraros, or chambered pieces. Several of theſe carts were repreſented

ſented in a valuable picture of the ſiege of Boulogne, which was burnt in the unfortunate fire at Cowdry-houſe, in 1793. Theſe carts ſeem to have been an invention of he Scots; and Henry, in his Hiſtory of England, mentions them as peculiar to that nation.

The introduction of fire-arms has certainly been the means of making ſoldiers gentlemen, and of introducing that alertneſs, neatneſs, and celerity, with which modern operations in war are conducted. The great good order and high decorum which prevails in the navy, and the aſtoniſhing improvements in naval tactics, were alſo brought about in conſequence of the invention of gun-powder, and the introduction of fire-arms. It having been found neceſſary, on many occaſions, to embark a number of ſoldiers on board our ſhips of war, and mere landſmen being at firſt extremely unhealthy, and for ſome time, until they had been accuſtomed to the ſea, in a great meaſure unſerviceable, it was judged expedient to appoint certain regiments for that ſervice, who were trained to the different modes of ſea-fighting, and alſo made uſeful in ſome of thoſe manœuvres of a ſhip, where a great number of hands were required; theſe, from the nature of their duty, were to be diſtinguiſhed by the appellation of maritime ſoldiers, and were therefore called *marines*. The preciſe time when this inſtitution firſt took place, is, like many other pieces of military hiſtory, involved, in obſcurity. The oldeſt corps of this kind ſtands the third regiment of infantry in the liſt of the army for the year 1684: it there appears under the deſcription of "the Lord High Admiral of England, his Royal Highneſs the Duke of York and Albany's maritime regiment of foot, commanded by the Hon. Sir Charles Littleton, called alſo the *admiral regiment*." It then conſiſted of twelve companies, without grenadiers; the men were clothed in yellow coats, lined with red; their colours were a red croſs, with rays of

the

the ſun iſſuing from each of its angles. This was not the preſent third regiment, now diſtinguiſhed by the name of *the old buffs;* that regiment then ſtood fourth on the liſt, and was commanded by John earl of Mulgrave. Probably the admiral regiment was reduced, by which the buffs gained a ſtep in ſeniority.

In the year 1755 a number of companies of marines were raiſed, under the direction of the ſecretary of war: they were afterwards formed into three diviſions, and ſtationed at the towns of Plymouth, Portſmouth, and Chatham; and at each of theſe places have now convenient barracks. Theſe companies, A. D. 1761, being 130 in number, were, from the time of their eſtabliſhment, put under the immediate direction of the lords of the admiralty. The marines are clothed and armed in the ſame manner as his majeſty's other corps of infantry; their uniform is ſcarlet, turned up with white, white linings, waiſtcoats, and breeches; they alſo wear caps, like thoſe of the fuſileer regiments; this cauſed them, when ſerving on ſhore at the ſiege of Belliſle, (where they gained great honour,) to be called by the French *les petits grenadiers.*

Cannon were formerly diſtinguiſhed by many hard and terrifying names, but are now only named from the weight of their ball; as a ſix-pounder, a twelve-pounder, a twenty-four-pounder, or a forty-two-pounder, which is the largeſt ſize now uſed by the Engliſh for battering. Upon the whole, it may be aſſerted, that cannon is one of the moſt ſingular diſcoveries which have been made amongſt men; and, by little and little, it has changed the whole art of war, and of conſequence influenced the whole ſyſtem of policy in Europe. After the introduction of the modern artillery, the Spaniards were the firſt who armed part of their foot with muſkets and harquebuſſes, and mixed them with the pikes. In this they were ſoon imitated by moſt other nations; though the

Engliſh had not entirely laid aſide their favourite weapon the long-bow, and generally taken to the uſe of fire-arms, until long after the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The firſt muſkets were called matchlocks; they were very heavy, and could not be fired without a reſt. They had barrels of a wide bore, that carried a large ball and a charge of powder, and did execution at a great diſtance. The muſketeers, on a march, carried only their reſts and ammunition, and had aſſiſtants to bear their muſkets after them, for which they were allowed great additional pay. They were very ſlow in loading, not only by reaſon of the unwieldineſs of the piece, and becauſe they carried the powder and balls ſeparate, but from the time it took to prepare and adjuſt the match; ſo that their fire was not near ſo briſk as ours is now. Afterwards a lighter kind of matchlock-muſket came into uſe; and they carried their ammunition in bandeliers, which were broad belts that came over the ſhoulder, to which were hung ſeveral little caſes of wood covered with leather, each containing a charge of powder; the balls they carried looſe in a pouch, and they had alſo a priming-horn hanging by their ſide. Matchlocks were, about the beginning of this century, univerſally diſuſed in Europe, and the troops were armed with firelocks; to which, much about the ſame time, the bayonet being added, pikes alſo were laid aſide; which latter change, whether it was for the better or not, is a point ſtill in diſpute among the beſt military writers.

The firelock is ſo called from producing fire of itſelf, by the action of the flint and ſteel. The moſt ancient invention of this ſort is the wheel-lock, which we find mentioned in Luigi Collado's Treatiſe of Artillery, printed at Venice, 1586, as then lately invented in Germany. This ſort of lock was uſed till within theſe hundred years, eſpecially for piſtols and carbines. It was compoſed of a ſolid ſteel wheel,

with

with an axis, to which was faſtened a chain, which, by being round, it drew up a very ſtrong ſpring; on pulling the trigger, the ſpring, acting, whirled the wheel about with great velocity, and the friction of the edge of it (which was a little notched) againſt the ſtone, produced the fire; the cock was made ſo as to bring the ſtone upon the edge of the wheel, part of which was in the pan, and touched the priming; they uſed any common hard pebble for that purpoſe, which ſerved as well as flint. Theſe locks were inconvenient, took time to wind up, (or ſpan, as they termed it,) and ſometimes would not go off; as may be ſeen in Ludlow's Memoirs. When the firelock was invented, is not aſcertained; it is called, by writers of about the middle of the 17th century, a *ſnaphane*, or *ſnaphance*, which, being the Dutch word for a *firelock*, ſeems to indicate, that it is a Dutch invention, and that we took it from them. The more modern writers call it a *fuſee*, from the French word *fuſil*; whence the name of fuſileers is ſtill continued to ſeveral of our regiments which were the firſt that were armed with them, on the diſuſe of matchlocks.

The change introduced in the military art by the modern artillery, Dr. Smith, in his Wealth of Nations, obſerves, has enhanced greatly both the expence of exerciſing and diſciplining any particular number of ſoldiers in time of peace, and that of employing them in time of war. Both their arms and their ammunition are become more expenſive. A muſket is a more expenſive machine than a javelin or a bow and arrows; a cannon or a mortar than a baliſta or a catapulta. The powder which is ſpent in a modern review is loſt irrecoverably, and occaſions a very conſiderable expence. The javelins and arrows which were thrown or ſhot in an ancient one, could eaſily be picked up again, and were, beſides of very little value. The cannon and the mortar are not only much dearer, but much heavier machines than

the baliſta or catapulta, and require a greater expence, not only to prepare them for the field, but to carry them to it. As the ſuperiority of the modern artillery too over that of the ancients is very great, it has become much more difficult, and conſequently much more expenſive, to fortify a town ſo as to reſiſt, even for a few weeks, the attack of that ſuperior artillery. In modern war, the great expence of fire-arms gives an evident advantage to the nation which can beſt afford that expence; and, conſequently, to an opulent and civilized, over a poor and barbarous, nation. In ancient times, the opulent and civilized found it difficult to defend themſelves againſt the poor and barbarous nations. In modern times, the poor and barbarous find it difficult to defend themſelves againſt the opulent and civilized. The invention of fire-arms, an invention which, at firſt ſight, appears to be ſo pernicious, is certainly favourable both to the permanency and to the extenſion of civilization. It furniſhes the defeated party with various means of retreating with conſiderable ſafety. The ſphere of military action is ſo widely extended in modern times, that, before the victors can run over the ſpace which ſeparates them from the vanquiſhed, the latter may fall back, and proceed with little loſs beyond their reach; and ſhould any village, hedge, ravine, &c. be found in their way, may often check the ardour of the purſuers. Upon theſe conſiderations, the invention of modern artillery may be ſaid to have ſaved the effuſion of blood.

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